Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXII, Issue No. 114 | TUESDAY MAY 15, 2012 | www.saipantribune.com 50¢

Visit us online @ www.saipantribune.com

OPINION METER
This week's poll:

Do you support the idea of privatizing the Commonwealth Health Center?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

INSIDE

LOCAL

Award-winning talents get together for the 1st Saipan Youth Music Concert. ➤ PAGE 9

BUSINESS

Facebook chief Mark Zuckerberg turns 28 with a possible $100 billion gift. ➤ PAGE 13

WORLD

Forty-nine headless bodies are found dumped on a Mexico highway. ➤ PAGE 16

Criminal case vs Public Auditor Pai's wife junked. PAGE 5
Parents of bullies could be fined, jailed. PAGE 7

Marines transform sleepy Tinian into a bustling hub

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Some 100 U.S. Marines stationed in Japan arrived yesterday morning on Tinian via a private high-speed vessel, transforming the sleepy island into a hub of military training and related activities, at least for the duration of Exercise Geiger Fury 2012, the largest military exercise the CNMI has seen in years.

Exercise Geiger Fury marks another milestone in the partnership between the CNMI and the U.S. Department of Defense, which leases two-thirds of Tinian.

At around 6:30am, the vessel was already waiting near the Tinian harbor for its local partners to guide it through the

See MARINE on Page 4

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

A military forklift maneuvers out of a high-speed vessel that carried some 100 U.S. Marines and tons of heavy equipment from Japan, shortly after the vessel docked at the Tinian seaport yesterday morning for Exercise Geiger Fury 2012. Inset shows Marines also carrying equipment from the vessel.

23 years in prison for 'serial rapist'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Anthony Raymond Mendiola Camacho, a habitual offender described by the prosecution as a serial rapist, was slapped yesterday with a sentence of 23 years and six months for kidnapping and sexually terrorizing his latest victim.

"The defendant must be punished and a message sent to the community," Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo said in his sentencing order.

Camacho

He ordered the 38-year-old Camacho to serve the mandatory sentence of 15 years without parole, with credit for the 81 days he has already served in jail.

Camacho was sentenced to five years in prison for kidnapping, 15 years for sexual assault in the first degree, three years for attempted sexual assault in the first degree, and six months for disturbing the peace, for a total of 23

See RAPIST on Page 4

'CUC payments to CDA would require rate hike'

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The preferred stock agreement between the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. and the Commonwealth Development Authority has created a new obligation for the utility agency—an obligation that would require a rate hike to pay for the required dividend payments.

The dividend payment structure was integrated in the rate application filed by CUC with the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission in January, just before CPUC shut down due to the lack of commission members.

The CPUC had denied the proposed rate hike as a result of the testimony of CDA executive director Manuel Sablan, who testified against the electric base rate hike due to its negative impact on

See CUC on Page 4

Pay as you surf with
MOBILE broadband PREPAID
MOBILE broadband PREPAID
$10
Island Wide Internet Service
Powered by Superior Coverage & Reliablity.
Starter Kits Available at all
IT&E Locations & Shell Stations
IT&E
Life in Motion
682-4ITE (4483)
www.ite.net
customercare@itehq.net
Tinian: 433-0210 • Rota: 532-3599 • Guam: 671-922-4ITE (4483)
Chalan LauLau Customer Care Ofc. • Wireless Express Center (TSL Plaza)
Some conditions apply. While supplies last. Prepaid load expires 14 days after initial use.

Local

Man allegedly tried to steal from tourists' rented vehicle

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Police arrested a man who allegedly burglarized a car rented by a group of tourists and attempted to steal their belongings at the Coral Ocean Point beach side in As Gonno Friday afternoon.

William T. Deleon Guerrero, 29, was taken to the Superior Court yesterday for a bail hearing on charges of burglary and attempted theft. His bail was set at $25,000 cash.

Police detective Alexander Sakisat stated in his report that he responded to the crime scene after receiving a call about a robbery in progress.

Sakisat said he met a Japanese male tourist and three of his friends standing by a rented Toyota Yaris.

An employee told the detective that he was on the golf course when he noticed the suspect talking to the tourist by the Toyota Yaris. The employee stated that he saw the tourist trying to pull the man out of a white vehicle, but the driver drove off.

The employee chased the vehicle with a golf cart and wrote down the car's license plate number.

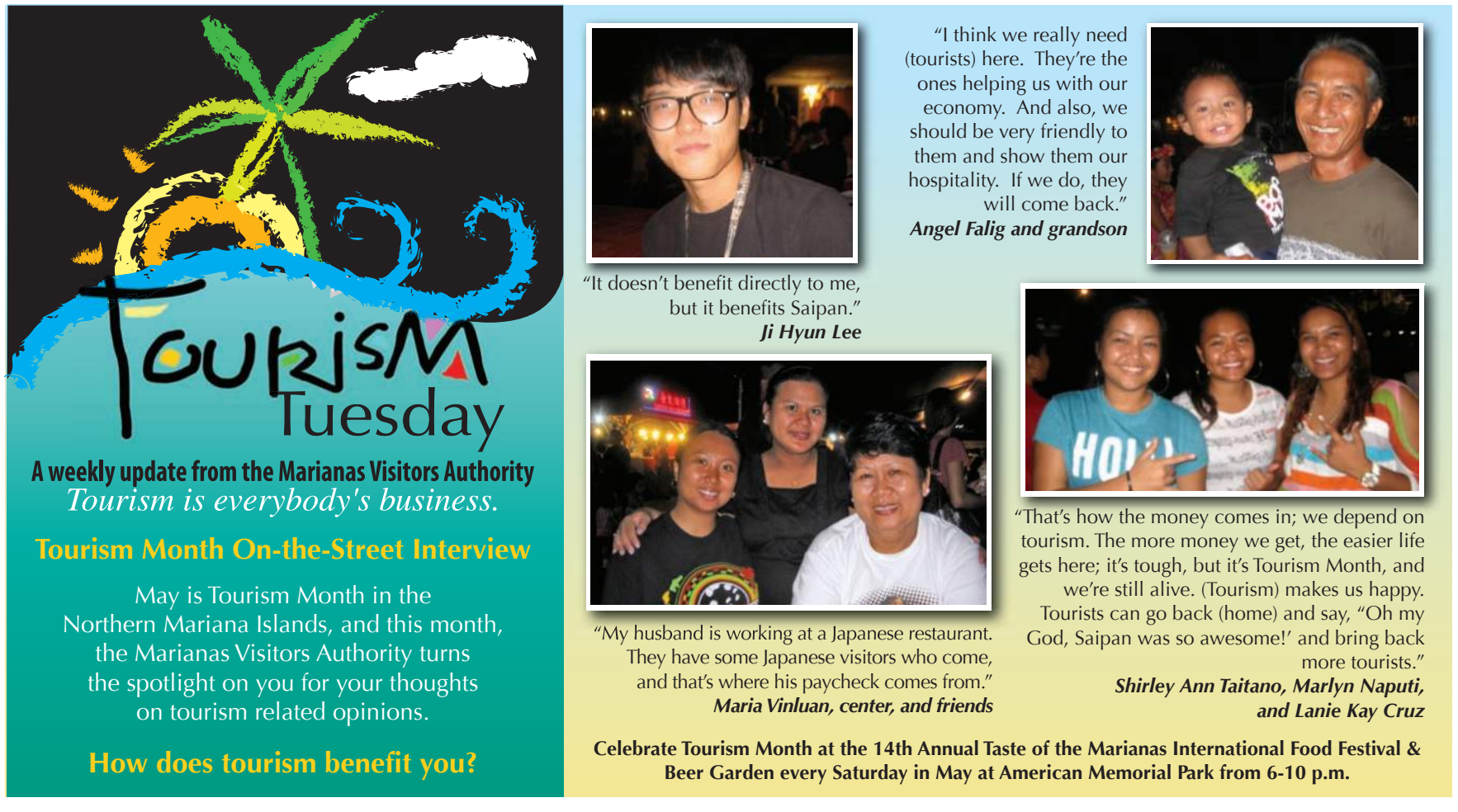
Sakisat learned that prior to the incident, the tourist and his friends were sightseeing at the COP beach side. The tourist saw a white vehicle park by their rented car. The tourist then saw the man lean into their vehicle by the front passenger side and appeared to be looking for things to steal.

The tourist walked back to their car, but the man told him that he did not do anything. The suspect then drove away.

A few minutes later, police detective John Cabrera spotted the suspect's vehicle by the Saipan International School in As Lito.

Sakisat brought the tourist to Cabrera's location. The tourist identified the operator of the vehicle (Deleon Guerrero) as the person who went through their vehicle.

The tourist confirmed that most of their valuables were locked in the truck and that none of their belongings were taken.


Tourism Tuesday
A weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority
Tourism is everybody's business.
Tourism Month On-the-Street Interview
May is Tourism Month in the Northern Mariana Islands, and this month, the Marianas Visitors Authority turns the spotlight on you for your thoughts on tourism related opinions.
How does tourism benefit you?
"It doesn't benefit directly to me, but it benefits Saipan."
Ji Hyun Lee
"I think we really need (tourists) here. They're the ones helping us with our economy. And also, we should be very friendly to them and show them our hospitality. If we do, they will come back."
Angel Falig and grandson
"My husband is working at a Japanese restaurant. They have some Japanese visitors who come, and that's where his paycheck comes from."
Maria Vinluan, center, and friends
"That's how the money comes in; we depend on tourism. The more money we get, the easier life gets here; it's tough, but it's Tourism Month, and we're still alive. (Tourism) makes us happy. Tourists can go back (home) and say, "Oh my God, Saipan was so awesome!' and bring back more tourists."
Shirley Ann Taitano, Marlyn Naputi, and Lanie Kay Cruz
Celebrate Tourism Month at the 14th Annual Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden every Saturday in May at American Memorial Park from 6-10 p.m.

Manglona to Reyes: Put personal interests aside, work with Senate

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) urged Senate floor leader Pete Reyes (R-Saipan) yesterday to "put personal interests aside" and "work together with the Senate" to help improve the economy—a week after the two traded barbs over a thorny resolution and accusations of wrongdoings.

Manglona said that Reyes has a "personal vendetta" against senators from Rota and Tinian, even though the decision to replace former Legislative Bureau director Glenna SP. Reyes—Sen. Reyes' wife—was made by the majority of the members of the House and Senate.

"Unfortunately, I believe that the Legislature's decision to terminate your wife is now affecting you decisions as a lawmaker. And besides causing animosity amongst your peers, your actions have more importantly affected the people of our islands," Manglona told Reyes in a letter dated May 9 that was delivered only yesterday.

He said Reyes' accusations are only deterring the Senate from addressing more critical issues such as the NMI Retirement Fund's Chapter 11 bankruptcy filing, the continued decline in government revenue, and the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.'s dire straits.

Reyes earlier accused Manglona and others of abuse of public funds by creating two subsistence allowances for members of the Legislature, which Reyes said is illegal.

Manglona believes that

See MANGLONA on Next Page

Housing allowance hangs fire while awaiting OAG opinion

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The fate of the housing allowance of select Commonwealth Health Center employees remains in limbo until the Office of the Attorney General issues its legal opinion on the matter, according to Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. board chair Joaquin Torres yesterday.

Torres said that assistant attorney general W. Allen Hazlip of the Civil Division will be working on the case by reviewing employment documents and interviewing human resource manager Marciana Igitol.

Hazlip attended the special meeting of the corporation's board last Thursday.

According to Torres, all documents and details of the employment contracts of affected employees will be provided to Hazlip and the OAG to allow them to issue a legal opinion.

"We have to resolve this once and for all. We have to provide them whatever is called for, either expressed or implied in the contract," Torres told *Saipan Tribune*.

Torres noted that they will follow whatever opinion will be issued by the OAG because "it's a legal obligation."

He said the problem lies with where to get the funds to pay for the housing allowance "because we don't have money for this purpose."

Committee recommendation

During Thursday's meeting, board member Anthony Raho reported on the recommendation prepared by Dr. Dan Lamar in consultation with the employee committee that was created to come up with a "compromise plan" on the housing allowance issue.

While the corporation acknowledges its obligation to the employees for the housing allowance, Raho said the corporation also has "dire" finances, which make the issue a "difficult situation to deal with."

He said the employee committee recommended a housing allowance of $500 for unmarried employees and $700 for those with families—a $100 reduction from previous rates.

"The committee had thought that they would be willing to accept a reduction in the housing allowance if the balance were rolled into their salaries. I think that the committee is pretty adamant about honoring existing contracts, whether paper contracts or if it's an implied contract," added Raho.

The board argued that other

See HOUSING on Next Page

How's Your Hearing?

Specializing in:

- Hearing Evaluations
- Custom fitted hearing aids
- Digital and Programmable Technology
- Custom Communication Devices

Jennifer Ross, BC-HIS
Board Certified in Hearing Instrument Sciences
Email: ross@guamcell.net

- **Friday May 18th 8:30am - 5:00pm** ***at Marianas Medical Center in San Antonio***
- **Saturday May 19th 9:00am - 3:00pm** ***at Marianas Medical Center in Garapan***

All interested patients should call Marianas Medical Clinic for scheduling

234-3925/7

Insurance accepted: AETNA and Medicaid

BOARD CERTIFIED NATIONAL BOARD FOR CERTIFICATION IN HEARING INSTRUMENT SCIENCES NBC HIS

Ross Hearing Aids

Introducing the
United MileagePlus®
Business Credit Card from
First Hawaiian Bank

Get where you need to go faster. Turn your business expenses into travel awards. Earn 1 award mile for every $1 you spend on purchases*. From more choices to more opportunities for convenience, you'll enjoy more direct flights to more destinations.

Apply by June 30, 2012 and receive up to 30,000 MileagePlus bonus miles:**

- 10,000 bonus miles upon account opening
- 10,000 bonus miles with first purchase by September 30, 2012
- 10,000 bonus miles after spending $3,000 within the first 4 months of account opening
- $0 intro annual fee for the first year, thereafter $45 per card†

Apply today. Visit any branch or fhb.com or call 1-800-342-2778.

MileagePlus UNITED

First Hawaiian Bank
Service. Solutions. Security. Yes we care.

fhb.com Member FDIC EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

Gualo Rai Branch, Gualo Rai Commercial Center, Middle Road • Tel: (670) 235-3090 Fax: (670) 235-3094
Oleai Branch, Oleai Center, Beach Road Chalan LauLau • Tel: (670) 234-6559 Fax: (670) 236-8936

*Miles accrued and awards issued are subject to the rules of the MileagePlus® program. United, its subsidiaries, affiliates and agents are not responsible for any products and services of other participating companies or partners. Please allow six to eight weeks after completed qualifying activity for bonus miles to be posted to your MileagePlus account. Bonus miles and miles earned through non-flight activity do not count towards Premier® status. Bonus mile offers are subject to change without notice. Taxes and fees related to award travel are the responsibility of the passenger. United may change MileagePlus program rules, regulations, travel awards and special offers or terminate the MileagePlus program at any time and without notice. MileagePlus participation may not be permitted in some countries. United and MileagePlus are registered service marks.

**Subject to credit approval. United MileagePlus Business Credit Card cardholders will receive one mile for every $1.00 of net purchases and one additional mile per $1 of qualifying ticket purchases, made directly from United. Apply by June 30, 2012 and if you are approved, receive 10,000 MileagePlus bonus miles upon account opening, 10,000 MileagePlus bonus miles with your first purchase by September 30, 2012 and an additional 10,000 MileagePlus bonus miles if you spend $3,000 within the first 4 months of account opening. Please allow six to eight weeks after completed qualifying activity for bonus miles to be posted to your MileagePlus account.

†$0 intro annual fee for the first year after account opening; thereafter, the annual fee is $45 per card. Additional limitations, terms and conditions apply.

CUC

From Page 1

the economic and commercial development of the islands.

"We won't have the ability to make any dividend payments until we have an opportunity to meet before the commission again and make another request for a rate increase to cover dividend," said CUC chief financial officer Charles Warren.

Warren and deputy executive director Alan Fletcher on Friday attended the CDA board meeting to take part in an "informal" discussion about CUC's financial ability to meet its dividend payment obligation.

Based on the agreement between the two, CUC is expected to start making its dividend payments to CDA for the former's $45 million liability converted into preferred stocks.

The agreement also gave CUC a three-year dividend deferral period to allow the agency to set aside funding for its dividend payments, which is expected to begin on Oct. 1.

Warren explained that CUC, as a public utility agency, is obligated to submit rate applications based on generally accepted ratemaking standards, which are used as basis for setting rates endorsed by CPUC.

He said CUC uses the "cash basis" standard wherein the agency is only allowed to recover its cash expenses within the "test year" or the 12-month period following its rate application. Included in these cash expenses are operating expenses, capital outlays, and actual debt principal and interest on existing obligations and those that are to be incurred in the test year.

With this rate structure, CUC could only recover costs, pay debts, and establish operating reserves without generating any profit or revenue, Warren said.

"We have rates to cover our cost. We don't have any rates to give us a profit. So there is no excess," Warren told the CDA board.

Fletcher, for his part, underlined that CUC is in a "tenuous" position. "We are literally living week to week. We have no working capital, we have no financial reserves."

Although CUC projects to earn an estimated $45 million in fiscal year 2013, its operating expenses are estimated at $42 million, according to Warren.

Fletcher pointed out that the $3 million balance is earmarked for non-operating expenses, resulting in "a balanced budget where revenues equal expenditures."

Warren emphasized, "Whatever we do, we're just going to have to get it from our ratepayers, one way or another."

Board member Marcie Tomokane argued that it would be unfair for the public if CUC would increase its rate just to accommodate the dividend payment obligation.

Board member Diego Songao recommended that CUC employ cost-saving measures like investing in a permanent building instead of renting one. He also raised concerns about CUC's new vehicles.

Both Warren and Fletcher emphasized that CUC continues to work on efficiencies and that most of its capital programs, including the majority of their new vehicle purchases, are grant-funded.

Warren pointed out in an email response that CUC rates are essentially limited to recovering costs. Even if the agency is able to lower its costs, the commission would require the rates to be reduced to eliminate any "profit" from which the dividends could be paid, he added.

The two agencies mutually welcomed the recommendation that CUC pay dividends to CDA, and the payments will then be reverted to CUC as CIP funds.

While this is a "potential" solution and has "significant" merit, Warren said there is a need to identify the mechanism to generate sufficient funds for the initial dividend payment and legislative approval assuring dividend payments.

"What is important, and it was clear to me, that the CDA board and staff are anxious to work with CUC on this matter and do so in a way that minimizes any impact on rates. We sincerely appreciate CDA's cooperation and their concern for ratepayers," Fletcher told *Saipan Tribune*.

Both agencies agreed to formulate a plan by June and present it to the Legislature in July.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Charles Warren, left, Commonwealth Utilities Corp. chief financial officer, and deputy executive director Alan Fletcher attend the Commonwealth Development Authority board meeting on Friday.

MARINES

From Page 1

channel.

It was already past 9am when military forklifts, bulldozers, other types of heavy equipment and Marines started disembarking from the vessel that took them from Japan's Iwakuni and then to Yokohama for repair and refueling, and finally to Tinian.

Residents and government personnel watched as the Tinian dock transformed into a temporary holding area for military vehicles and Marines preparing to head for the West Field and North Field where the training are to take place.

The rest of the estimated 200 Marines taking part in the exercise are expected to arrive either via planes or also by sea vessel in the coming days.

Soon, there will be F-18 Hornets and C-130s on Tinian skies as part of the exercise.

The training on Tinian allows Marine Aircraft Group-12 out of Japan "to improve aviation combat readiness and simulate operations in a deployed austere environment," among other things.

Tinian was the launching pad for the two atomic bombs that were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, hastening the end of World War II.

Marine Cpl. Adam Santana, 22, said that it is interesting to take a journey into an island that played a major role during the war.

"We came from Iwakuni, Japan, which is approximately 25 minutes from Hiroshima where they actually [dropped] the bomb so you get to see both parts of where it happened, and how it actually happened, and what the outcome of it was. So yes, it's pretty interesting," Santana told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview aboard the high-speed vessel docked at the Tinian seaport.

There have been reports out of Japan that Tinian may be a future training site also for Japanese forces, alongside U.S. forces.

'Significant'

Col. Robert D. Loynd, officer-in-charge of Marine Forces Pacific Forward-Guam and CNMI, said the arrival of the Marines for the exercise is a "significant" event on multiple levels.

"This is a very important event not only for the Marine Corps being able to train in an expeditionary environment, which is so important to us. Some of these training venues are unique throughout this part of the world, and Tinian certainly affords us some tremendous opportunities," he told reporters.

Loynd said the U.S. Marine Corps took part in and has been part of some very significant events in the history of the Marianas and the region.

"We're eager to return to our home, to our roots, very much expeditionary and amphibious in nature and I look forward also to improving our partnership with the Northern Mariana Islands and Tinian, as we explore future opportunities for expanded training here in the future," he added.

Tinian Mayor Ramon Dela Cruz, who was already by the dock at 7:15am, said this is the beginning of another chapter in CNMI history.

"Finally," the mayor said, as he watched Marines and machines offload from the ship. "People thought this will never be pulled off on Tinian."

Gerald K. Crisostimo, a resident of San Jose, Tinian and assistant ports manager, said, "It's about time" the military uses its leased lands on Tinian and help the local economy grow.

Alvin John, of Marpo Valley, said it's his first time to see Marines arriving on Tinian to train.

"I thought about joining the military, but I stayed here to take care of family matters such as land and family. But I have lots of relatives who are in the military," said John, a firefighter on Tinian.

Marine Master Sgt. Shane Smoger said the Marine Wing Support Squadron 171's job is "go forward deployed and construct a fully operational airfield in an expeditionary manner."

"To return the aircraft on North Field on Tinian I think that's pretty big for us, we're looking forward to it. I've been in the Marines for 17 years and this is probably the most interesting and the most unique operation or detachment I've been on," he said.

Geiger Fury 2012 will be conducted on both West and North Fields on Tinian in the CNMI, while Aviation Training Relocation will be conducted at Andersen Air Force Base in Guam.

Approximately 700 personnel will participate in the ATR training in Guam and around 200 personnel will participate in Geiger Fury on Tinian.

Training on Tinian's North Field includes clearing, stripping, and repairing the landing surface on Able and Baker runways and the installation of matting for vertical take-off and landing of rotary and fixed-wing operations.

Training on Tinian's West Field includes emplacement of arresting gear and fuel storage/distribution for purposes of extending aviation training throughout the Mariana Island Range Complex.

RAPIST

From Page 1

years' imprisonment.

Govendo said the mandatory sentence of 15 years will apply because of Camacho's prior felony conviction.

"Defendant shall not be eligible for parole until after he has served the mandatory sentence in addition to appropriate time after serving the mandatory sentence," Govendo said.

Police said that Camacho asked the victim to bring him to a secluded area in As Matuis where he threatened to kill her before trying to rape her inside her car on Feb. 23, 2011. The victim managed to escape after she hit him in the left eye with the car key, forcing him to go down from the vehicle and giving her the chance to drive off.

Last Feb. 23, with the jury trial on its third day and the prosecution still having two witnesses to call, Camacho interrupted the proceedings to plead guilty.

Assistant attorney general Shelli Neal described Camacho as a serial rapist and recommended a life sentence or the maximum of 55 years and six months. Court-appointed defense counsel Stephen Woodruff recommended the mandatory maximum of 15 years, subject to parole.

In imposing the sentence yesterday, Govendo conceded that Camacho expressed remorse for his actions. "However, defendant's past behavior not only demonstrated [his] repeated disregard of the law, but makes one wonder if he is capable of learning from past mistakes," Govendo said.

The judge cited Camacho's five previous criminal convictions—false arrest and assault, burglary, rape, attempted oral copulation, and disturbing the peace—in 1993, 1995, 2000, and 2001.

Govendo said that Camacho's criminal history is voluminous, including an attack on a 15-year-old neighbor, two rape cases, and an attempted rape. In the current case, Govendo said that Camacho tried to rape the victim but only succeeded in groping her.

"Defendant now begs for another chance and promises that he will be good," the judge said.

For the previous five separate criminal cases, Govendo said that Camacho could have been sentenced to a total of 132 years if all charges had been prosecuted.

"Instead, charges were dropped and he was given no more than one year in jail for each of the four felony cases, totaling a mere three years and 30 days for 16 crimes. Defendant has been given chances and he has ignored them," Govendo noted.

MANGLONA

From Page 3

Reyes' absences from leadership meetings, his changed disposition as a senator and a coworker, and his changed stance on many positions that the Senate has agreed upon are all in response to the Legislature's decision to replace Glenna SP Reyes.

"Especially during these trying times, it is important that our intentions are clear. I am requesting you to please put personal interests aside and work…with the Senate," Manglona told Reyes.

Reyes told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that he will respond to Manglona's letter, to be sent today. He, however, said that Manglona "has every reason to panic." Manglona is seeking re-election.

Reyes said that Manglona has refused to work with Gov. Benigno R. Fitial to find solutions to the crises the CNMI faces and couldn't even work with the House.

Fitial is campaigning for Manglona's opponent, former representative Victor Hocog. He earlier called Rota and Tinian senators "stupid" for killing a House bill legalizing casino gaming on Saipan. Reyes now supports casino operations on Saipan, citing the need to come up with revenue generating measures to stem the worsening economic condition.

Last week, the Senate adopted a resolution Manglona authored that objects to lawmakers who now want to go back to receiving their salary as legislators after waiving it to receive their retirement benefits instead. That resolution effectively applies only to Reyes.

Manglona said he is not trying to single out Reyes because he thought there were others who are doing the same.

Reyes said he is extremely honored that Manglona found the time and effort to craft up a resolution in Reyes' honor. But he said Manglona could have drafted instead a bill that will prevent future abuse of public funds.

HOUSING

From Page 3

alternatives should be considered as the corporation has a lot of obligations that are beyond its financial capability.

One option raised was to cut down on other expenditures, but it was pointed out that reduction-in-force is already being implemented

These alternatives include cutting down expenses and to review the current real estate market to reflect a more updated housing monthly rate standards. It was also noted that the corporation can find housing units for its staff that charge lower rates.

In the future, Torres said the corporation will try to do away with the housing perks.

"As an employment contract expires, we would negotiate with this individual the compensation package and just remove entirely the housing allowance," he said.

Criminal case vs Public Auditor Pai's wife dismissed

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Perry B. Inos has dismissed a criminal case that accused the wife of Public Auditor Michael Pai and her elderly mother of stealing electricity worth over $51,000.

Inos, however, gave the CNMI government 10 days to amend its case.

Inos said the CNMI government failed to show, under its own factual allegations, that Mrs. Joanna C. Pai received a direct benefit from the theft of utility services.

"Because the facts in this case are undisputed, the court is not invading the province of the jury or determining an element of the offense charged," he said.

The judge stressed that he is not dismissing the second amended information versus Joanna Pai because the government will be unable to prove its case; rather, because there is no case to prove.

The Office of the Attorney General filed the case against Joanna C. Pai and her mother, Columbia I. Chong, in November 2011.

Mrs. Pai, through former attorney general Rexford Kosack, sought to dismiss the case.

Kosack stated that the only reason Mrs. Pai has been charged is that she is married to Public Auditor Michael Pai, who at that time was having a public spat with Attorney General Edward T. Buckingham.

Kosack said that Mrs. Pai has not committed the offense under either the facts or the law alleged in the information.

The information, he said, alleges that Mrs. Pai received the benefit of a theft of utility services. He noted that the government should be aware of the fact that Mrs. Pai is not a customer as the utility account is in the name of another person.

Kosack contended that the second amended information should be dismissed with prejudice because the government's case theory is that Chong Corp., and not the defendants, allegedly committed the crime. Kosack argued that in general, shareholders are not liable for the criminal acts of a corporation.

The government argued, among other things, that Mrs. Pai received a direct benefit from the theft because she "too, has responsibility" for the corporation.

Commonwealth Utilities Corp. inspectors were performing a meter inspection at Chong's Corp. on Aug. 30, 2011, when they noticed that several electric items were still running even though the main breaker had been turned off and the meter had been disconnected. The inspectors discovered that there had been a "sophisticated workaround" of the electrical system that allowed for a bypass of the electric meter.

When the inspectors asked to speak to the owner of the business, a Chong Corp.'s employee contacted Mrs. Pai who then arrived at the scene.

The account was found to be in the name of Columbia I. Chong, Mrs. Pai's mother. Chong, who is elderly, had been off-island for an extended period and left Mrs. Pai to run Chong Corp. and attend to her affairs on Saipan in her absence.

On Sept. 20, 2011, Chong signed a power of attorney that gave Mrs. Pai the authority to represent her in all CUC matters. On Sept. 22, 2011, Mrs. Pai signed a customer agreement so CUC would restore electrical services to Chong Corp.

Inos said it is undisputed that Chong is the account holder of the utility service and that Chong's Corp. took possession of the property and made use of the utility service.

"Therefore, under these undisputed facts, either Chong or Chong's Corp. could be determined to have received a 'direct benefit' from the theft and found liable," Inos said.

While Mrs. Pai may manage the corporation's day-to-day business, Inos said it is the corporation that receives the electrical services, therefore any benefit Mrs. Pai could have received, in all practical respects, would have been funneled through the corporation to Mrs. Pai.

MOA to outline fee schedule for TMC assessment of CHC

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The memorandum of agreement that would allow the Philippine-based The Medical City to study the operations of the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. is a "work in progress," according to press secretary Angel Demapan yesterday.

Demapan said that Gov. Benigno R. Fitial has instructed Attorney General Edward T. Buckingham to work with TMC on the assessment project, which is part of the governor's plan to privatize the public hospital.

TMC officials led by Margaret Bengzon, president and chief executive officer of Guam Regional Medical City, met with Fitial, Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. officials, and other island leaders last Thursday.

TMC, which is currently building a $220-million private hospital in Guam, will be doing the CHC assessment for six weeks.

Demapan said that as an "interim" step, TMC was presented with a potential fee structure involving the assessment project, which started on Thursday.

According to Demapan, the CNMI will "have no obligations for payments or reimbursement of any kind" if TMC's six-week assessment leads to a product that remains unused by the Commonwealth.

Once TMC completes the assessment and is selected as a contract provider, then the Commonwealth will also not be obliged to pay or reimburse TMC for the assessment project, said Demapan.

On the other hand, if the assessment results in a product that will be used substantively by the CNMI and a different contractor is selected for medical services management similar to the findings and recommendations of TMC, the Commonwealth will pay TMC $150,000 or the actual value of the product as determined by the CNMI, whichever is less, for the assessment service.

Demapan noted that they are now looking for available grant opportunities to support this expected expense.

Healthcare Corp. board chair Joaquin Torres said he is pleased that the corporation is not spending a penny on TMC's assessment. He described as fair the three fee conditions.

"If they do the assessment and we do not utilize their services after assessment, they are entitled to compensation. My opinion is that it's fair and reasonable," he added.

Lease transfer from CTSI to POI OK'd

The Commonwealth Ports Authority board has approved a request of CTSI Logistics to transfer its airport lease assignment to an affiliate, POI Aviation.

Executive director Edward Deleon Guerrero said the request is a result of the increased responsibility of POI Aviation, which intends to serve Saipan Air once the airline is launched in July.

Saipan Air will be the first national carrier of the CNMI, offering direct flights to Japan and China, and soon to Taiwan, Russia, and Korea. It is expected to boost arrivals by 22 percent in 2012 and by 97 percent in 2015.

All three companies are owned by Tan Holdings.

Saipan Tribune learned that the lease assignment involves a property that houses an office and warehouse close to the commuter terminal and measures about 20,000 square feet.

"Since the property is being leased by CTSI, all they're doing is transferring it from one to the other [POI] so that they can do more development up there and do the functions that they need to do, the additional responsibilities that they have," explained Deleon Guerrero. ***(Clarissa V. David)***

Pay as you surf with
MOBILE broadband
PREPAID
Powered by Superior Coverage & Reliablity.
With Mobile Broadband Prepaid you can surf the Internet wherever you go with no contracts or monthly fees.
It's affordable at only $2 per hour of UNLIMITED internet access. Update Facebook, watch YouTube, shop Amazon – You're in control. You only pay for what you use!
$10
Island Wide Internet Service
INCLUDES
UM175 USB MODEM
PLUS FREE $10 LOAD
Starter Kits Available at all
IT&E Locations & Shell Stations
IT&E
Life in Motion
682-4ITE (4483)
www.ite.net
customercare@itehq.net
Tinian: 433-0210 • Rota: 532-3599 • Guam: 671-922-4ITE (4483)
Chalan LauLau Customer Care Ofc. • Wireless Express Center (TSL Plaza)
Some conditions apply. While supplies last. Prepaid load expires 14 days after initial use.

$224K OK'd for release to owner of defunct Plumeria Resort

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Superior Court has ordered the release to the owner of the defunct Plumeria Resort in San Roque the $224,194 that one of the hotel's owners had posted with the court in 2007 to stay the imposition of a court judgment against him.

In an order issued last week, Associate Judge David A. Wiseman ordered that the appeal bond posted by Wan Jin Yoon be released to the Saipan Achugao Resort Members' Association, or SARMA, through its attorney, Sean Frink, in trust for his client.

"SARMA has been denied the judgment amount for over five years. The court finds that further denying SARMA its right to its $224,194 judgment is not proper and would defeat the purpose of and policy behind the posting of an appeal bond," Wiseman said.

Wiseman also ordered Yoon and SARMA to brief the court of Yoon's damages based on the CNMI Supreme Court's opinion so that he can make a reasoned decision pursuant to the high court's ruling.

While the Supreme Court instructed the Superior Court to examine the issue of Yoon's contractual damages, the remaining judgment remains unchanged, Wiseman said.

"So, while a stay was created upon the posting of the…bond by Yoon in 2007, the $224,194 judgment in favor of SARMA was not affected upon appeal, and therefore the stay is now lifted," Wiseman said.

SARMA, formed in 2000 as a non-profit, is composed of members who own subleased interest in units or commercial spaces at the Plumeria Resort.

Plumeria Resort was built in 1990 by Saipan Joint Venture, which assigned the ground lease to SARMA in 2000.

SARMA sued one of its members, Yoon, for alleged non-payment of management fees and maintenance fees. Yoon filed a countersuit against SARMA for the alleged forced sale of his unit.

In May 2006, Wiseman ruled that SARMA's forced sale of Yoon's unit was improper because Yoon was not in default of either lease or SARMA's by-law provisions at the time of the forced sale.

Wiseman, however, determined that Yoon is subject to dues assessments and emergency repair fees from March 7, 2003, "to the present." He ordered Yoon to remit $224,194 to SARMA.

Yoon then appealed to the CNMI Supreme Court and requested a stay of judgment.

In March 2007, Wiseman stayed the appeal on the condition that Yoon submits to the court a bond in the amount of the judgment, plus 10 percent of the judgment to cover interest, plus $250 to cover costs.

On April 2, 2007, the CNMI Court accounting officer received a cashier's check in the amount of $246,863.40 from Yoon.

SARMA then filed a motion to release the money. Wiseman heard the motion on Jan. 19, 2012.

In SARMA's motion, Frink cited that in October 2011, the CNMI Supreme Court affirmed SARMA's $224,194 judgment against Yoon.

Frink said the immediate release of the money as payment is many years overdue and that it is necessary for the re-opening of the hotel.

Frink pointed out that Yoon's appeal was unsuccessful so the judgment against him stands.

Yoon, through counsel Richard W. Pierce, filed a counter motion to have the funds released to him and a determination of damages pursuant to the Supreme Court's ruling on his appeal. Pierce argued that any potential damage award to Yoon by the court should be offset from the bond amount.

In his order granting SARMA's motion, Wiseman disagreed with Yoon's position. He said the Supreme Court held that "the judgment of the trial court as to Yoon's damages is vacated, and this case is remanded for a consideration of contractual damages consistent with this opinion."

Wiseman noted that the Supreme Court ruled that "in all other respects the judgment of the trial court is affirmed." Therefore the $224,194 judgment is valid and undisturbed by the Supreme Court ruling, he said.

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.mp

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, through its Chairwoman of the Board, is hereby giving notice that the Special Meeting of the Board is scheduled on **Thursday, May 17, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. at the NMHC Conference Room, Garapan, Saipan**. The public is welcome to submit written or oral comments regarding the agenda below. Individuals interested in attending the meeting and needing special accommodations are requested to contact NMHC in advance.

I. PRELIMARY MATTERS
a. Call to Order
b. Roll Call
c. Adoption of Agenda
II. PUBLIC COMMENTS
III. ACTING CORPORATE DIRECTOR'S REPORT
a. Garapan Annex RFP
b. Personnel Matters
c. Update on Thirty-Two (32) former RD Properties
d. QAP 2012
e. REO's for Sale (003 D 16, 003 D 22, 001 C 57)
f. Multifamily Renewal
g. CDBG/CDBG-R Updates
h. ESG Updates
i. Fiscal RFP
IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION
V. OTHER MATTERS
VI. ADJOURNMENT

(Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a) (7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session.)

/s/ **MARCIE M. TOMOKANE**
Chairwoman of the Board

United States District Court for the
Northern Mariana Islands,
Bankruptcy Division

NORTHERN MARIANNA ISLANDS
RETIREMENT FUND

Bankruptcy Case No. 12-00003

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the United States Trustee's Motion to Dismiss Case ("motion") is set for hearing on June 1, 2012, at 9:30 a.m. The motion sets forth the grounds regarding why the United States Trustee has determined that the Debtor is ineligible to be a chapter 11 debtor, and accordingly, has requested that the case be dismissed. The full contents of the motion is on file with the Court, and a copy can be obtained from the Court. Any response or opposition to the motion must be filed with the Court on or before May 18, 2012 (14 days before the hearing) at: U.S. District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands , 2nd Floor, Horiguchi Building, Garapan, P.O. Box 500687, Saipan, MP 96950 USA
If you mail your response to the Court, you must mail it early enough so the Court will receive it on or before the deadline stated above. The Court may disregard any response filed untimely. You must also mail or transmit a copy of any response or opposition to the moving party at: Office of the United States Trustee, Attn: Curtis Ching, Asst. U.S. Trustee, 1132 Bishop Street, Suite 602, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813.
If you fail to file a response to this motion within such time period, the Court may treat such failure as a waiver of your right to oppose the motion and may grant the requested relief.

Dated: Honolulu, Hawaii May 9, 2012,

Terri H. Didion,
Trial Attorney for U.S. Trustee

Hofschneider to leave SHEFA

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance administrator Henry Hofschneider will soon leave his post to work full time at the Saipan Mayor's Office.

Hofschneider, who is also a special adviser to Mayor Donald G. Flores, said that Flores has asked him to be at the Mayor's Office full time.

However, the Mayor's Office will continue to help run the SHEFA program by providing staff support, he added.

According to Hofschneider, Flores has been asking him to be at the Mayor's Office for eight or nine months now.

"Now I'm transitioning out of SHEFA to the Mayor's Office. But if the board needs my help, I'll still be able to help them," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Hofschneider disclosed that the only reason why he couldn't leave SHEFA in the past was the lack of a full-time staff.

With Doreen Cruz able to manage the office on her own, Hofschneider said he is now assured that SHEFA will be okay once he leaves.

Hofscneider said it will now be up to the SHEFA board if they plan to hire a new administrator. The board is composed of chair Joe Mafnas, vice chair Josephine Sablan, and members Ursula Aldan, Vina Saures, and Juan Tenorio.

He also revealed plans to transfer the SHEFA office next to the new Mayor's Office. According to Hofschneider, there is a 1,000-square-foot office space for rent next to the Mayor's Office on the second floor of Ladera Center along Beach Road.

Hofschneider noted that the relocation would facilitate staff support between SHEFA and the Mayor's Office.

Fitial signs 2 new public laws, 2 local laws giving $55K to Rota

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial signed yesterday two public laws that promote road safety and designate management of public land in Sadog Tasi, along with two local laws that appropriate a total of $55,000 for Rota programs and services.

Fitial signed a bill that vests the Department of Lands and Natural Resources with the management and disposition of a certain public land in Sadog Tasi on Saipan for the development of a public park.

Rep. Ray Tebuteb's (R-Saipan) House Bill 17-120 is now Public Law 17-72.

The governor also signed yesterday another Tebuteb bill, which requires vehicles hauling trailers or similar cargo to have red rear lights connected to the trailers in sequence to the tail lights of the operating vehicle. This will help prevent accidents, most especially in the early morning and evening hours.

Tebuteb's HB 17-132 is now P.L. 17-73.

Fitial also signed a local bill appropriating $30,000 in poker machine license fees for 11 different programs and services, including for patients on dialysis and the terminally ill, the Rota Municipal Scholarship Foundation, retroactive salary payments, the Rota Liaison Office and the Rota Mayor's Office expenses.

The measure, House Local Bill 17-77 Substitute 1, is now Rota Local Law 17-19. It is authored by Rep. Teresita Santos (Ind-Rota).

The governor also signed Santos's HLB 17-79 Substitute 1 into RLL 17-20. This bill appropriates $25,000 in poker machine license fees for three programs and activities. They include the Rota Little League Association, the Rota Municipal Scholarship Foundation and retroactive salary payments.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Coastal Resources Management
Caller Box 10007, Springs Plaza, Middle Road, Saipan, MP 96950
Website: www.crm.gov.mp
Tel. (670) 664-8300 • Fax (670) 664-8315

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
May 15 , 2012

THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE CRM OFFICES:

APPLICANT	DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED	APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	TYPE	STATUS
1. Mr. Joaquin Atalig	04/12/2012 SSm-2012-X-031	Concession	Ladder Beach	Shoreline APC	Approved (05/07/2012)*
2. Saipan Crewboats, Inc.	04/26/2012 SPIm-2012-X-033	Dry Dock	South Sea Plane Ramp	Ports & Industrial APC	Approved (05/01/2012)*
3. Asia Pacific Hotels, Inc.	05/01/2012 SSm-2012-X-034	Island Style Beach Bar	Fiesta Resort, Garapan	Shoreline APC	Approved (05/03/2012)*
4. MVA	05/02/2012 STRS/LRm-2012-X-035	Photographic Activities	CNMI & Managaha	Shoreline and Lagoon APC	Approved (05/02/2012)*

Publication of the above list is in accordance with CRM Regulations, which require all permit applications to be published in a local newspaper within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (*).

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the CRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the CRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APC's) and proposed amended major sitings. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local CRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a CRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the CRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the CRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the CRM Regulations.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

KagES PTSA meeting tomorrow

Kagman Elementary School will have its ninth and final PTSA meeting for school year 2011-2012 tomorrow, May 16, 2012, from 6pm to 7:30pm at the school cafeteria. It will coincide with the last Parent Literacy Night for Science. We encourage all parents and guardians of children attending KagES to please come and attend. For more information call 664-3911 to 12. ***(PR)***

SSHS PTA meeting set

Saipan Southern high School will have a PTA meeting on Wednesday, May 16, 2012, starting at 6pm in the Manta cafeteria. Important information will be addressed. ***(PR)***

Memorial Week proclamation signing

There will be a Memorial Week proclamation signing on Thursday, May 17, 2012, at 9am, in the Office of the Governor's conference room. All veterans, active and reserved military personnel, family members of departed veterans, and the public are invited to come and join us for this proclamation signing.

On May 28, 2012, the CNMI will be remembering its fallen heroes at the CNMI Veterans Cemetery in Marpi at 9am. ***(PR)***

FOA membership meeting set

Friends of the Arts will have its final membership meeting of the year at the Marianas Resort, an FOA member, at its outdoor La Stella Restaurant terrace on Tuesday evening, May 22, beginning at 6:30pm. There will be entertainment provided by FOA and the award-winning MHS Glee Club, with more performers to be added.

The cost of the meal for members and their families will be the same as our other meetings: $15 for adults and young adults 12 and above, $8 for youngsters 5 up to 11, and no cost for the little ones 4 and younger. Please send Frank Gibson an email at flgibson@yahoo.com to confirm. ***(PR)***

Health Care Professions Licensing Board meeting

The Health Care Professions Licensing Board will hold its regular monthly board meeting on Wednesday, May 16, 2012, at 3:30pm on Saipan. The meeting will be held at Conference Room no. 3 at the Dr. Jose T. Villagomez Center for Public Health and Dialysis Center, Lower Navy Hill, Saipan. ***(PR)***

UNDER HOUSE BILL NOW BEFORE THE SENATE

Parents of bullies could be fined up to $2K, jailed up to 90 days

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A House bill that's now before the Senate seeks to hold parents liable if their children are found to be bullies in schools. These parents will be made to pay a fine of up to $2,000 and imprisoned for not more than 90 days for a third and subsequent offense.

House Bill 17-159, authored by Rep. Trenton Conner (R-Tinian) and passed the House recently, says bullying in schools is increasing and is a significant threat to the youth.

Conner said his bill seeks "to address and deter bullying in schools by establishing parental liability for the harm inflicted by bullies who are not properly disciplined and supervised by their parents."

If and when this bill becomes law, he believes that bullying will decrease as parents recognize and appreciate that they have a responsibility and now possible criminal liability for allowing their children to bully others.

Conner said because individuals that bully others are often minors or those under 18 years old, addressing bullies directly through fines and incarceration is not legally practical.

"For this reason, the Legislature finds that the parents of bullies should be held responsible under a theory of parental liability," the bill states in its findings.

"Bullying," as defined in the bill, is "behavior by an individual or group, usually repeated over time, that intentionally hurts another individual or group, either physically or emotionally."

Bullying can take many forms, including teasing and spreading rumors to pushing someone around and causing physical harm. It includes name calling, mocking, kicking, taking belongings, writing or drawing offensive graffiti, messing with people's belongings, gossiping, excluding people from groups, and threatening others.

Young people are bullied for all sort of reasons, including due to their race, religion, appearance, sexual orientation, disability, or because of their home circumstances.

Sometimes, however, victims are bullied and picked on for no reason.

In addition to traditional forms of school yard bullying, CNMI youth may also be victimized by "cyberbullying," which involves the use of mobile phones or Internet. Examples of cyberbullying are sending offensive text messages and emails, circulating degrading images on the Internet, or impersonating someone on social networking sites such as MySpace and Facebook.

For a first offense, the parent of a bully could be fined not less than $100 and not more than $500, and imprisonment of not more than 30 days.

For a second offense, a fine of not less than $500 and not more than $1,000, and imprisonment of not more than 60 days.

A third offense or subsequent offense could result in a fine of not less than $1,000 and not more than $2,000, and imprisonment for not more than 90 days.

In addition to any of these penalties, the parent may also be liable for attorney's fees and costs associated with any related lawsuit.

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS

Happy 18th birthday to Ivan Jeremy Reyes Santos! Have a great birthday, may God bless you and we love you! Greetings come from your sweetheart Richelle, the Mungwaath family, the Figueroa family, and the whole Finasisu troops!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy 10th birthday to an amazing daughter and big sister, Loutricia "Trishy" Santos. Although you officially became a "tween" you will forever be our baby girl. Thank you for being a great big sister! We love you! From Daddy, Mommy and Baby Joe.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

IP&E
Fueling Excellence

SIGN UP. GAS UP. AND WIN!
• 1 Ton Shell V-Power® Premium Gas
• 200,000 United MileagePlus® Award Miles
• United Round Trip Tickets (U.S. or Asia)
• iPad 3 or Mifis with service
• $800 IT&E gift certificates

LUCKY 7 REWARD BENEFITS
• $7 IN FREE FUEL OR SHOP PURCHASES;
• A FREE $10 IT&E PREPAID WIRELESS CARD; OR
• 500 UNITED MileagePlus®* AWARD MILES (NEW!)
*500 miles offer valid through promotional period.

SIGN UP ONLINE: ipesaipan.com

*Terms and conditions apply. See store for details.

GO FOR THE GOLD
Sign up today and get*:
☑ 50 FREE Gallons in Lucky 7 Reward Points; OR
☑ 250 FREE United MileagePlus® award miles
☑ DOUBLE POINTS EVERYDAY with your Lucky 7 Gold Card!
*Added to your account upon submission of your completed Lucky 7 Application.

AVAILABLE AT SHELL SERVICE STATIONS.

MileagePlus UNITED
IT&E Life in Motion
Shell Licensee
Shell trademarks used under license by IP&E.

The Green Gala welcomes PTC, TSL Foundation as title sponsors

The Mariana Islands Nature Alliance recently welcomed the Pacific Trading Co. and the Tan Siu Lin Foundation as title sponsors of its signature fundraising event, the Green Gala.

The Green Gala, which will be held this Friday, May 18, 2012, at the Fiesta Resort's Hibiscus Hall, aims to raise critical funds to help MINA, a nonprofit organization, continue its work in protecting the environment.

"We're really grateful to PTC and TSL Foundation for their generosity and their support in helping to make the Green Gala event a great success," said Fran Castro, MINA board member and chairperson of the Green Gala planning committee. "We're still encouraging many other companies to also be a part of this special event by becoming a sponsor, donating items for the silent auction, or by purchasing tickets."

The leading conservation, nonprofit organization in the Commonwealth, MINA has successfully implemented many projects, including the Obyan Rehabilitation Project, the Teacher Environmental Camp, the Marine Debris Prevention, Tasi Watch Project, and the Adopt-A-Bin Project, which project has placed recycle bins at all the major beaches on the island.

In order to continue its efforts to preserve and protect the CNMI's fragile environment and biodiversity, MINA is seeking the community's participation in the Green Gala event. The organization is supported by project grants and from generous contributions from local businesses and community members.

In addition to great entertainment, dinner and a variety of beverages,The Green Gala will feature highlights from MINA's projects, a silent auction, and many other activities that promises a memorable evening.

"It's going to be a great night for the environment," added Castro.

The major sponsors of the event include Hyatt Regency and Docomo Pacific. Other sponsors include Joeten Super Store, *Marianas Variety*, DFS Galleria, Kurt Baumgartner, Athletes Foot, Delta Airlines, Joe Weaver, Monika's Gallery, Greg Elliot, Angil Design, Borderline, Brabu Pharmacy, McDonald's, Docomo Pacific, IT&E, Carpet Masters, Dial Rent To Own, and Chong's Corp. ***(MINA)***

LAW DAY BILL BEZZANT

U.S. District Court Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona poses with visiting federal employees and their children in the courtroom as part of the District Court's observance of "Law Day" and "Take Our Daughters and Sons To Work Day" on May 7, 2012.

NMC's English Language Institute prepares student for the Big Apple

Over the years the Northern Marianas College's English Language Institute has assisted scores of students to develop skills to communicate effectively using the English language. For student Bin Lu, her time at NMC not only helped her to learn English but also to pursue her academic goals in New York City.

Almost two years ago the Fujian province native left China for the first time mainly to learn English at the Northern Marianas College.

"At that time, I couldn't speak any English and my grammar was terrible," said Lu. "When I started learning English, I made many mistakes. Fortunately, my English instructors Mr. Barry Wicksman, Mrs. Lek Algaier, Mr. Bruce Johnson and Mr. Michael Nurmi were very patient and helped me so much."

The NMC Language and Humanities Department, through the English Language Institute, offers comprehensive instruction to assist individuals improve their English communication skills.

"Her experience at NMC helped lay the foundation of her confidence in her English speaking skills," said Wicksman, Lu's English instructor and mentor. "In our island community we are very welcoming, and so you get more of a nurturing and open environment at NMC."

Lu now reports that her communication skills have improved greatly. "I can speak, write, and listen at the college level."

Lu added, "NMC is a nice school because it has many excellent instructors and a multicultural environment. I was able to make many friends from other cultures."

Lu

Wicksman noted that Lu's exposure to people of different cultures will "help her in the long run."

Lu's ultimate goal is to return to China and work for an international company. This fall she plans to attend Baruch College in New York City to work toward a bachelor's degree in Accounting, and hopes to one day earn her master's degree in business.

She chose to continue her studies at Baruch College "because they have a great business program." Baruch College is a nationally ranked postsecondary institution known for its business degree programs. Its campus is located near Wall Street and the headquarters of many major companies.

"If I didn't come to NMC I would never have gotten a chance to get to Baruch," said Lu. "This has been a positive experience for me both academically and personally."

"We are very proud of Lu Bin and have high hopes for her," said James Kline, Language and Humanities Department chairperson. "We are also very proud to have played a part in her success and wish her the best with her future plans." ***(NMC)***

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

May 15, 2000

User fee collection up $2.5M

Stability in the volume of apparel exports from the Northern Marianas to the mainland United States has facilitated the Commonwealth's efforts to weather hard economic times due to the sudden turnaround of the tourism industry in the last couple of years. User fee collection from garment export certification soared by $2.5 million to $39.3 million in Fiscal Year 1999 from the previous year's 36.8 million, according to records obtained from the Central Statistics Division of the commerce department. However, actual user fee collection was still lower than the original government projections of $41.1 million for FY-1999.

Senate OKs tougher laws on domestic violence

A comprehensive measure aimed at curbing growing incidents of domestic violence and spousal abuse on the island has passed the Senate in a first significant response to clamor by advocates for tougher laws against perpetrators. SB 12-34, or the Domestic and Family Prevention Act, now heads to the House of Representatives for voting. The legislation is similar to an earlier proposal introduced in the 11th Legislature by former House Floor Leader Ana S. Teregeyo that failed to go through. Now offered by Sen. Ricardo S. Atalig, chair of the Committee on Health, Education and Welfare, this bill seeks to prohibit acts of domestic and family violence as well as to provide remedies, penalties, and courses of treatments to both victims and perpetrators.

May 15, 2001

Garment industry kicks in 25% of govt tax earnings

Although severely attacked, the Saipan garment manufacturing industry has positioned itself to be a significant contributor of direct annual revenues for the government, or nearly 25 percent of all tax earnings. According to the Department of Finance, the apparel manufacturing sector has generated close to $40 million annually in direct revenue. With the dramatic downturn in the highly-volatile tourism sector, the industry currently represents the main source of income and employment in the CNMI. Similarly, an economic study funded by the US Department of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs revealed that at an average of $1,800 income taxes per person, the apparel manufacturing industry, which currently employs about 15,000 foreign workers, contributes $27 million in income taxes alone.

Legislators OK with fewer House seats

A proposed Legislative Initiative aimed at reducing the number of congressional seats is likely to pass the House of Representatives. House Committee on Judicial and Governmental Operation Chair Dino Jones yesterday disclosed plans to pass House Initiative 12-007 amending Article 2 Section 3 of the CNMI Constitution. Mr. Jones said the House is seriously looking at passing the measure as part of its contributions in overall efforts to reduce government expenditure by $50,000 annually.

May 15, 2002

CPA to get $270K grant from FEMA

Gov. Juan N. Babauta is leaving for Guam today to meet with officials of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to follow up on matters related to the typhoon recovery efforts of the Commonwealth. During the same meeting, it is expected that FEMA Region IX director Jeff Griffin would also announce the release of a $270,000 grant for the Commonwealth Ports Authority to be used to buy a new firefighting vehicle, according to Public Information Officer Peter Callaghan. He said the new grant has no matching requirement. A press conference has been scheduled today to make the announcement.

Panel wants public pulse on Saipan casino initiative

The House Committee on Ways and Means will schedule two public hearings next week to pulse the Saipan community's view on the legislative proposal to legalize casino gambling in the Third Senatorial District. The hearings are set for Monday, 6:30pm at the Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe and Tuesday, 6:30pm at the Kagman Community Center. The House panel, chaired by Rep. Stanley T. Torres, is expecting testimonies from the Attorney General, the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, Department of Finance, Retirement Fund, Tour and Travel Agents Association, Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Marianas Visitors and members of the public.

1st Saipan Youth Music Concert raises $1.4K for PSS

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Performers at the 1st Saipan Youth Music Concert pose for a group photo after the show at the Pacific Islands Club Charley's Cabaret last Friday.

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Young award-winning musical talents got together Friday at the Pacific Islands Club Charley's Cabaret for the 1st Saipan Youth Music Concert.

Organized by the Yonsei Academy, the event featured outstanding performances by local talents that won in the Tumon Bay Music Festival 2012 in Guam on March 2 to 10.

The performers were of diverse ethnic backgrounds from Yonsei Academy and Do Re Mi Music School, the Saipan Southern High School Manta Ray Band, and the Marianas High School Glee Club.

MHS Glee Club's Harold Easton described the concert as a "very, very fine activity" as it provided an opportunity to gather "very interesting" talents on island, with the assistance of the students' families.

"Without the support of these parents and families, none of these would be taking place," added Easton.

Manta Ray Band conductor Will DeWitt said more people will look forward to succeeding concerts.

Friday's two-hour fundraiser also collected $1,454, which was earmarked for the CNMI Public School System. DeWitt and Easton accepted the donation on behalf of PSS.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Hae Lin Kim of the Yonsei Academy plays the cello.

Youngmi Han, Yonsei Academy owner and teacher, said in an interview that organizing the event and getting sponsors and donors were challenges that they overcame by having the schools, teachers, and parents work together.

While the donation made to PSS was small, Han noted that it came from the heart "which is so important."

Han said she wanted to have "a good purpose and influence" in the community and she thought of bringing together the musicians and singers that brought honor to the CNMI by winning awards and trophies in the Tumon Bay Music Festival.

According to Han, one's musical talents are a gift from God and should be shared with others. She emphasized that music heals and relaxes people, uplifting spirits and making people around them happy.

Han said that they plan to hold the Saipan Youth Music Concert annually.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Members of the Manta Ray Band of Saipan Southern High School play *Urban Dances* by E. Morales.

➤ Saipan Southern High School's Manta Ray Band entertain the crowd with *Earth, Wind, and Fire*.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

CLARISSA V. DAVID

A male member of the Marianas High School Glee Club belts out a song.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Young piano virtuoso Cloency Chua takes a bow after his performance.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXII, Issue No. 114

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR

MEMBER

The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

ON THE BRIGHT SIDE, OBAMA FINALLY SUPPORTS OUR MARRIAGE!
WILL WORK FOR FOOD
NEED JOB PLEASE HELP
GIVE
KEITH TYLER CHARLOTTE OBSERVER ©2012

By URI DROMI
The Miami Herald

Daniel Akst, a columnist for Newsday*, is the author of* We Have Met the Enemy: Self-Control in an Age of Excess *from Penguin Press.*

Bibi's brilliant political move—or was it?

The last thing you want to be in Israel right now is a newspaper editor. You go to sleep with a smile on your face, happy about your next day's editorial—"Bibi's Election Move: Brilliant or Stinking?"

Then you wake up in the morning and find out that during the night, the same prime minister who had just called for early elections, made a U-turn and, in the wildest political flip-flop in Israel's history, reversed his decision and brought into the government the same opposition leader who had sworn to topple him.

Explaining Israeli politics to an American audience is difficult enough even without this recent show of acrobatics. I'm not trying to simplify American politics, and I still wonder how the Electoral College system works, because in 2000 Al Gore won the popular vote but George W. Bush won more electoral votes and eventually became president. But let's leave these constitutional obscurities aside.

What matters is that when they go to the ballots, Americans either elect a Republican or a Democrat to become president. The winner governs the country for a full four years while the loser goes home to write his memoirs. In the House of Representatives the losing party checks and balances the administration while regrouping for a comeback with a new candidate.

Not so in Israel. In my country, losers always stay in the arena, hoping for a second chance. Take President Shimon Peres, for example, by far the most respected public figure in Israel today. Despite the fact that in his almost six decades of political experience, in election after election, he never succeeded in being elected prime minister: He either had to share the position with Yitzhak Shamir between 1984-88 or, tragically, replace the assassinated Yitzhak Rabin in 1995.

Ehud Barak is another example. In 2000 he was ousted as prime minister, after one of the shortest terms ever in Israel. He seemed to have retired from politics only to pop up again later, leading the venerable Labor party, which had established the state of Israel, to its lowest ebb: 13 seats in the Knesset, out of 120. This didn't stop him from joining the government of Benjamin Netanyahu as defense minister, although Netanyahu's party, Likud, stood for everything Labor voters opposed.

If this was not enough, in 2011, when true Laborites started grunting against sitting in such a government, Barak broke away together with four other Knesset members and formed a new party. Polls indicate that if that party ran in elections today, nobody would vote for it.

So much for adhering to what the electorate wants. Yet it seems that Shaul Mofaz, leader of the Kadima opposition party, broke a record this week when, in a "dramatic" late-night meeting with Netanyahu, he crossed the lines and joined the government.

Zigzagging is not new to Mofaz. In 2005, when Ariel Sharon broke away from the Likud to form the Kadima Party, Mofaz made a memorable speech: "You don't leave a home." The following day, when he realized that he would be better off in the new party, he defected without blinking. Recently

See BIBI'S ON Next Page

Salacious in El Salvador

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime R. Vergara (jrvergarajr2031@aol.com) is a former PSS teacher and is currently writing from the campus of Shenyang Aerospace University in China.

"Comfort sex" was our preferred title for this reflection but after connecting the dollar's downgrade to Dania in Columbia, we were accused of taking a cheap shot at Amerikana, not so much on the greenback as with our seeming ethical bent on presidential security checking body temperature with their dipsticks on commercial fuel tanks. It now appears that this was a second incident that followed a previous warm and wet camaraderie in El Salvador.

No matter that both Columbia and El Salvador have legalized their commercial trade in flesh, and the security force frat guys were just observing an old boys' fun-filled carousing tradition, it is an election year and Obama is an open dartboard for the least infraction on the nation's manners. It reflects on the leadership, the GOP says.

China has a saying that "the difference between politic and polite is etiquette," explaining the length the media goes into massaging their reports into the level of community standards. Not so our sleazy tabloid heritage, so it comes as no surprise that our Dania had hired a high-powered lawyer to look after her new celebrity status, and swiftly high-tailed it to Spain on the fear that the cowboy security boys will silence her now expected detailed account of their indiscretion!

It is comfort sex, however, that caught our fancy, not from the pages of *Playboy* but from some of our self-conscious women who are not too keen on the demands and commitments of covenant but do not mind cultivating friendship toward casual comforting and comporting under covers. "Comfort sex" has since been Googled into the same realm as "comfort food"! Neither is recommended for one's health, but it is widely indulged in nevertheless.

It was the early '60s when my Dad returned from almost six years of graduate work in a conservative school and geographical section of the United States, surprisingly carrying a 1958 brown-paper-wrapped book called *Sex Without Guilt* by Albert Ellis, an exposition of America's researched practices and attitudes toward love and human sexuality, along with the explosive work of the controversial and famed Alfred Kinsey of Indiana.

We were too young to know what was dubbed the sexual revolution then, which confronted our tender moorings when it was our turn to walk the streets of San Francisco's North Beach in 1966, though we did not go far enough to wear a flower in our hair, hang beads down our neck, and flashed the V-sign to onlookers at Haight-Ashbury.

What my Dad's book represented (I never read the book but his possession of it did us a huge paradigmatic number) was, however, a way of thinking far too removed from my upbringing and the religious orientation that nursed my "faith." That religious group, the United Methodist Church, was the reason I ventured back to Saipan's lagoon after Thanksgiving in '98 and helped redefine the institutional expression of my vocation.

The same body held its quadrennial General Conference in Florida last week (I was around at the Dallas '60s and Denver '90s gathering) and in a legislative session discussing the Church's stance on LGTB, the most divisive issue in the guarded but non-operational psyche of Midwest United States, it was an African woman who cried her heart out in opposition to allowing homosexuality be regarded other than as a blatant "abomination to the Lord," as denounced, she says, by Holy Writ and the missionaries of her upbringing. The UMC's fastest growing membership is from the Third World with a 19th century missionary mentality that has come to haunt and drive out the more progressive elements of this distinctively American institution that grew in the shadows of the U.S. Congress rather than the White House.

In a confessional statement I made in my youth, I characterized my mother's Roman Catholic Church and my father's United Methodists as having, respectively, turned into a "whore" and a "pimp." Very politic but not too polite, my literal metaphors did not meet an appreciative audience.

With Pope Benedict now going after Caritas International for not condemning homosexuality in its services, President Obama finally coming out in support of same-sex marriage, and Romney suddenly becoming adroit in avoiding any set position any given time but yet shamelessly revving up the hinterland's defensive homophobia, our preoccupation with whether the President's security were salacious in El Salvador, now scheduled for Senate hearing, makes the liberating U.S. land of the Alberts a rather sad-looking jaded juvenile.

We took a few months not too long ago to understand the workings on Saipan of what we called the *House of Horus* (the Egyptian pagan god Horus, promiscuous and polytheistic, gave us the colorful English word "whore") wildly written up in these pages. It made us understand why our local male citizens get in trouble with new post-puberty virgin teens when we recall that the patriarchal *Datus* of Malayo-Oceania and the liege lords of Europe had it as their honored prerogative to deflower the village's lassies.

We thought Ellis and Kinsey had catapulted us beyond our ancient prejudices. We've had some ardent holdovers to the past. Some even sit in legislatures.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Want to succeed in business? Call mom

By JOHN GERZEMA and MICHAEL D'ANTONIO
LOS ANGELES TIMES

In the not-so-distant past, children looked mainly to their fathers for lessons on life outside the home, on how to succeed in business, politics and social organizations. Mom occupied the center of family life and guided us in personal relationships; the values she stressed—empathy, kindness, fairness, collaboration—didn't seem to guide a dog-eat-dog world.

But times change. Today, success in business often depends more on what our mothers traditionally taught us. In other words, male or female, many of the smartest, most creative and innovative among us are becoming more feminine.

The shift can be seen, in part, in the success of large companies that devote a lot of effort to understanding their customers. Target and Ford are big examples, but it can perhaps best be seen in the success of much-smaller concerns built from the ground up on shared values with their customers.

In the last year we have traveled the world to study companies that are profiting from what we call the feminine way of doing business. In London, we met the (male) founders of Whipcar, who connect private automobile owners with people who will pay to use a vehicle for a few hours or days. Whipcar screens and insures renters, but it's a business founded largely on trust. And it's growing like gangbusters.

In Lima, Peru, we met chef Gaston Acurio, who built a restaurant empire in 12 countries by adapting his mother's recipes and training workers in his own culinary school. Acurio's fame has stimulated an Andean food fad, aiding Peruvian farmers and wholesalers.

In Tokyo we found Motherhouse, maker and retailer of high-end jute and leather handbags and perhaps the ultimate example of the feminine business model.

Motherhouse's founder, Eriko Yamaguchi, wanted to find a way to permanently improve workers' lives in one of the world's poorest nations, Bangladesh. She discovered the country's jute industry and found a factory willing to work with her to combine her designs with its workforce, retrained to produce accessories that would be at home on the Ginza in Tokyo. With six shops in Japan and plans to expand, Motherhouse provides good wages and a safe factory for the workers Yamaguchi calls her firm's "creators." And her customers pay not just to help the poor but to get a bag they really want.

Such cases of "doing well by doing good" would be merely inspiring one-off examples if the world's consumers weren't moving in the same direction. The fact is, they are. As part of our research, we conducted a survey of 40,000 people selected to represent mainstream consumers in 13 countries that represent 75 percent of global gross domestic product. We found that people are weary of us-versus-them leadership and hungry for a kinder, gentler marketplace.

When we asked people to list the qualities they most want in their leaders, men and women both favored traits they termed "feminine" over those they considered "masculine," by better than 2 to 1. Among the highest-ranked were "communicative, reasonable, flexible and patient," which were all strongly associated with the feminine side of human nature.

Several trends in trade and technology support the rising importance of such traits in the marketplace. Social media, for example, make it harder for companies to get away with bad behavior. We're not saying manufacturers don't make shoddy products and service providers don't abuse customers. However, consumers have a much easier time sorting those they want to do business with from those they don't. And businesses that have found a better way have a much easier time telling their stories to the world.

And it may not be surprising that traditionally feminine values have gained appreciation as men, those mostly in power, have been blamed for massive, global economic catastrophes. Seventy percent of those we surveyed said the world would be a better place if "men thought more like women."

None of this spells the end of what people consider classically male traits in business. Assertiveness, competitiveness and even aggression not only still exist but still have value; in one way or another, these traits also mark the entrepreneurs we met. But where innovation, problem-solving and creativity are the marks of a growing business, we found men and women emphasizing the kinds of relationship lessons our mothers taught us.

If on this Mother's Day you count yourself a success, you might want to call home and thank your mother for teaching you empathy. If you are struggling to find your way in the new economic landscape, you might want to ask her for a little advice.

By JOHN GERZEMA
MICHAEL D'ANTONIO
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John Gerzema and Michael D'Antonio, authors of Spend Shift*, are working on a book about feminine business models. They wrote this for the* Los Angeles Times*.*

Maurice Sendak stared down kids' fears

Years before Maurice Sendak ever wrote or illustrated his first book, the British wit G.K. Chesterton explained why Sendak's approach to creating stories for children was so right, and why the parents who feared and fought Sendak's work were so wrong.

"Fairy tales do not tell children that dragons exist," Chesterton wrote. "They already know that. Fairy tales tell children that dragons can be killed."

Fear is integral to our childhoods. Everyone else is bigger, and much of each day is new. We fall, and bleed. There are ferocious dogs, and strange noises in the dark, and nightmares, and the contempt of other kids, and the screaming of angry adults.

And there is the news, on television and around the kitchen table, that a whole bunch of people in office buildings in New York City died, that a family was shot by its daddy, that there's a war on. Children know they aren't entirely safe.

That's why it's better to give a child a book full of fears to be faced than one that pretends there's nothing to be afraid of.

Sendak, who died Tuesday at 83, came along at a time when he was much needed. Childrens' tales, in books and on television, were becoming bland, silly things, about radiant boys and girls with jovial parents and trivial lives. From the Bobbsey Twins and Nancy Drew to Opie Taylor and Beaver Cleaver, cultural characters had no significant obstacles or fears, and lived no tales worth telling.

In 1963, Sendak published "Where the Wild Things Are." It wasn't his first book, but it was the one that brought him prominence—and even that took some time. "Wild Things," is the translation of vilde chaya, the Yiddish expression Jewish kids would've had hurled at them when they weren't behaving, in the 1930s Brooklyn of Sendak's youth.

The book is about just such a boy. Max's rambunctious behavior gets him sent to his room without dinner by his mother, and his private lair then turns into a jungle full of horned and bearded creatures, with terrible teeth and terrible roars, far wilder than the ill-behaved Max. Or are they?

Max conquers them by "staring into all their yellow eyes without blinking once." He is named their king, and the Wild Rumpus begins. But soon enough, the boy is tired and lonely. He returns home to find his mother has lovingly placed his dinner in his room, still hot when he arrives.

In the end, Max is a good kid, and in the end, Mom is a good mom, but neither is perfect. Max's need to escape, and then embrace her, and her need to punish, and then succor him, is a pattern any parent gets.

The book garnered poor reviews at first, low sales and a number of bans due to its unusually dark images and tone. But by 1965, school librarians saw it would not stay on the shelves. Children would check it out again and again, titillated and scared by the drawings and story, reassured by the ending.

Now those kids are parents and grandparents themselves, and the book has sold 18 million copies, spawned a movie and achieved the status of "accepted classic." But the feelings that made some adults revolt against "Wild Things" remain.

Traditional children's stories, from the Brothers Grimm to Hans Christian Andersen to "Treasure Island," are terrifying. They supply childish readers with real tales, where the stakes are high and because of that, the morals matter.

Sendak was a bridge between those traditional, scary tales and the dystopian fiction kids love today. From the "Hunger Games" to the Uglies to Harry Potter, children read books soaked in death and violence, and some parents quake.

That's the lesson Sendak leaves us: Parents are easily terrified and must be treated quite gently, lest they scar.

By LANE FILLER
Newsday

Lane Filler is a member of the Newsday *editorial board. His email address is lane.filler@newsday.com*

BIBI'S

From Page 10

he campaigned against Tzipi Livni, the ex-leader of Kadima, scolding her for being too soft on Netanyahu. He succeeded in replacing her, and a month ago, in his first speech as opposition leader, he attacked Netanyahu's government with venom, calling it "arrogant, condescending, pitiless," and vowing that "the people will not vote for them again." He even became personal, calling Netanyahu "a liar."

Come Monday night, and all this miraculously evaporates. The two former enemies shook hands warmly in front of the cameras, congratulating each other on the deal they had just cut, and then went on with business as usual. Kadima Knesset members, who knew nothing about the nightly plot, couldn't hide their happy smiles: According to the polls, half of them would have been jobless had elections occurred today. It is the Israeli citizens, though, who were left perplexed.

The only way not to give in entirely to cynicism and not to lose hope in the Israeli political system is to try to believe that there is a higher cause here which makes this meshigas (craziness in Yiddish) a worthy one. Iran? But how? United for an attack or against it? Nobody knows. Two-state solution? But with whom? With Netanyahu? With the ever-growing settlements? Or maybe putting an end to the unfair situation, whereby some of us serve in the military, risking our lives, and some don't. There is talk now that by the end of July, these two new partners will pass legislation about it. Perhaps this is something worth waiting for.

Back to our newspaper editor. Come to think of it, maybe he wasn't so much off target, after all. At least as far as the headline is concerned, and anyway, many people pay more attention to headlines than to the story itself. "Bibi's Election Move: Brilliant or Stinking?" is still a valid headline, even if the elections were cancelled. Only time will tell which is right. I have my own guess, but for the time being I'm keeping it to myself.

Letter To The Editor

Another way

The many letters about Article 12 of the CNMI Constitution—which limits land ownership to those of Northern Marianas descent—have been debated in terms of "either-or": either land ownership should be allowed for those not of NMD, or it should not. However, there is another way of looking at it and talking about it—by changing the definition of who it is who is allowed to own land in the CNMI.

For instance, one could say that any U.S. citizen who has lived in the CNMI for several (pick a number; 2, 3, 5?) years as of 2010 would be eligible to own land. Requiring several years of residence would preclude so-called "fly-by-night" investors. That would open up land ownership to people of non-Marianas descent, but still provide some control over who makes the purchase.

There are probably other variations on that approach that could be put forth. This one—not mine, but originating from an islander—is but one way of looking at it. It moves the question from "either-or"—which many people have found difficult to deal with—to a compromise that might be more readily acceptable, and therefore more likely to succeed in being passed—both in the legislature and on the ballot.

Ruth L. Tighe
Tanapag, Saipan

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°

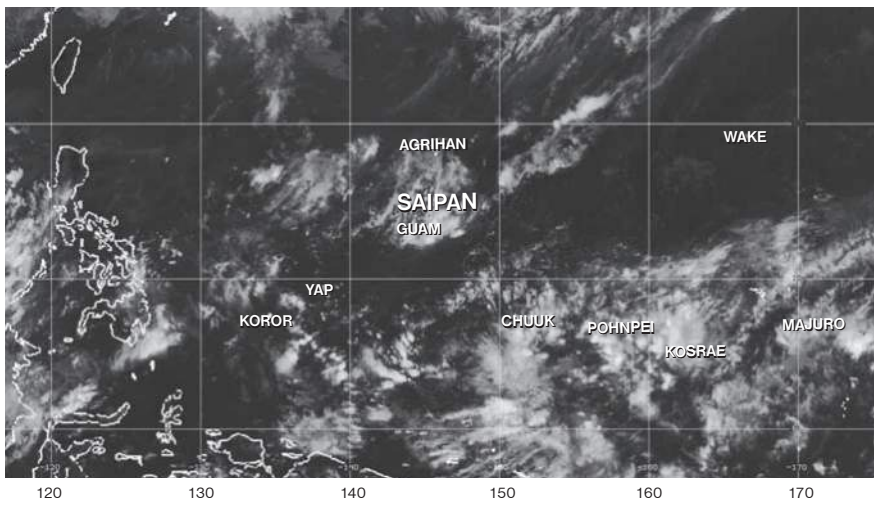
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	▲89	▼80
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲89	▼76
Yap	Showers	▲92	▼77
Chuuk	Showers	▲88	▼79
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼76
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼76
Majuro	Showers	▲86	▼80

Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲61	▼55
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	▲79	▼57
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲86	▼80
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲82	▼70
London	Showers	▲53	▼43
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲75	▼57
Manila	Thundershowers	▲90	▼81
Melbourne	Showers	▲59	▼49
Miami	Thundershowers	▲84	▼74
New York	Showers	▲69	▼60
Osaka	Showers	▲72	▼58
Paris	Showers	▲53	▼44
Pusan	Showers	▲73	▼59
Rome	Sunny	▲72	▼59
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼50
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲60	▼49
Seoul	Showers	▲74	▼54
Tokyo	Showers	▲67	▼63
Washington, DC	Rain	▲69	▼64

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, MAY 14, 2012
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A cold front extends southwestward from near Minami Tori Shima at 25N158E to northeast of the CNMI at 21N150E then curves westward as a stationary front passing Pagan at 17N146E to 18N139E then continues northwestward as a warm front to beyond 25N132E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are occurring within 85 miles of a line from 25N158E to 20N150E and between 17N and 19N from 143E to 147E and between 16N and 19N from 134E to 141E. A surface trough south of the above boundary runs southwestward from 21N157E to south of Guam at 13N145E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found within 45 miles north and south of this boundary. Converging trade winds west and south of Yap and around Koror are producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms between 9N and 11N from 131E to 136E and between the equator and 6N from 135E to 144E. A surface trough reaches northeastward from 1N151E to 8N154E. Scattered showers are seen south of Chuuk between the equator and 6N from 150E to 154E. A surface trough east of Pohnpei runs northeastward from 2N160 to 12N167. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are found south of Pohnpei and over Kosrae between 2N and 7N from 157E to 166E and north of Kwajelein within 100 miles of a line from 10N159E to 11N170E. A trade-wind disturbance is producing scattered showers southeast of Kosrae between the equator and 3N from 164E to 168E. Trade-wind convergence is generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms south of Majuro between 4N and 8N from 169E to 180.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

4:42 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
11:27 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.6 Feet
5:11 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.4 Feet
10:57 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.7 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:48 AM	6:38 PM
Wednesday	5:48 AM	6:39 PM
Thursday	5:48 AM	6:39 PM
Friday	5:48 AM	6:39 PM
Saturday	5:47 AM	6:40 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	1:43 AM	2:04 PM
Wednesday	2:21 AM	2:51 PM
Thursday	2:58 AM	3:39 PM
Friday	3:36 AM	4:27 PM
Saturday	4:16 AM	5:15 PM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 6, 2012

DEPARTURES

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA5062	2:40am	3:10am	1, 5

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN (SPN)

UA5062	3:40am	4:15am	1, 5

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA5062	4:50am	5:40am	1, 5
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA5074	11:30pm	12:20pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily
UA5078	6:50pm	7:40pm	Daily
UA5072	9:55pm	10:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:05am	8:50am	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

0Z606	2:20am	6:00am	1
0Z606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
0Z604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily

SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

0Z606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
0Z606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:35am	9:55am	3, 6 via GUM
DL287/173	6:05am	10:15pm	Daily via NRT
UA5076/183	3:10pm	8:45pm	Daily via GUM
UA5076/193	3:10pm	10:25pm	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
0Z604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	Daily via ICN
UA5072/PR111	9:55pm	7:50am+1	1, 5, 7 via GUM
UA5072/PR111	10:05pm	7:50am+1	3, 6 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

0Z606/721	2:20am	11:50pm	1 via ICN
0Z606/721	2:50am	11:50pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5076/147	4:35pm	9:45pm	1, 5 via GUM
0Z604/723	3:30pm	10:40pm	Daily via ICN

ARRIVALS

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA5062	3:40am	5:40am	1, 5

SAIPAN (SPN)-ROTA (ROP)

UA5064	4:15am	4:50am	1, 5

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA5062	2:40am	4:15am	1, 5 via ROP
UA5071	7:10am	8:00am	Daily
UA5073	10:05am	10:55am	Daily
UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5077	5:25pm	6:15pm	Daily
UA5079	8:35pm	9:25pm	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:15pm	12:50am+1	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

0Z603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
0Z605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
0Z605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

0Z704/603	12:10am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
DL172/288	8:05am	12:50am+1	Daily via NRT
UA190/5077	10:55am	6:15pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA190/5077	10:55am	9:25pm	3, 6 via GUM
0Z702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
0Z702/605	12:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/C05071	10:15pm	7:50am+1	1, 5, 7 via GUM
UA192/5071	9:45pm	8:00am+1	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
UA184/5071	10:55pm	8:00am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:25pm	8:00am+1	2, 5 via GUM
0Z704/603	11:45pm	2:20pm+1	Daily via ICN

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

0Z724/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
0Z722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7
0Z722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
UA180/5076	10:35pm	8:00am+1	1, 5 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; CZ: China Southern; UA: United; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Saturday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

Business

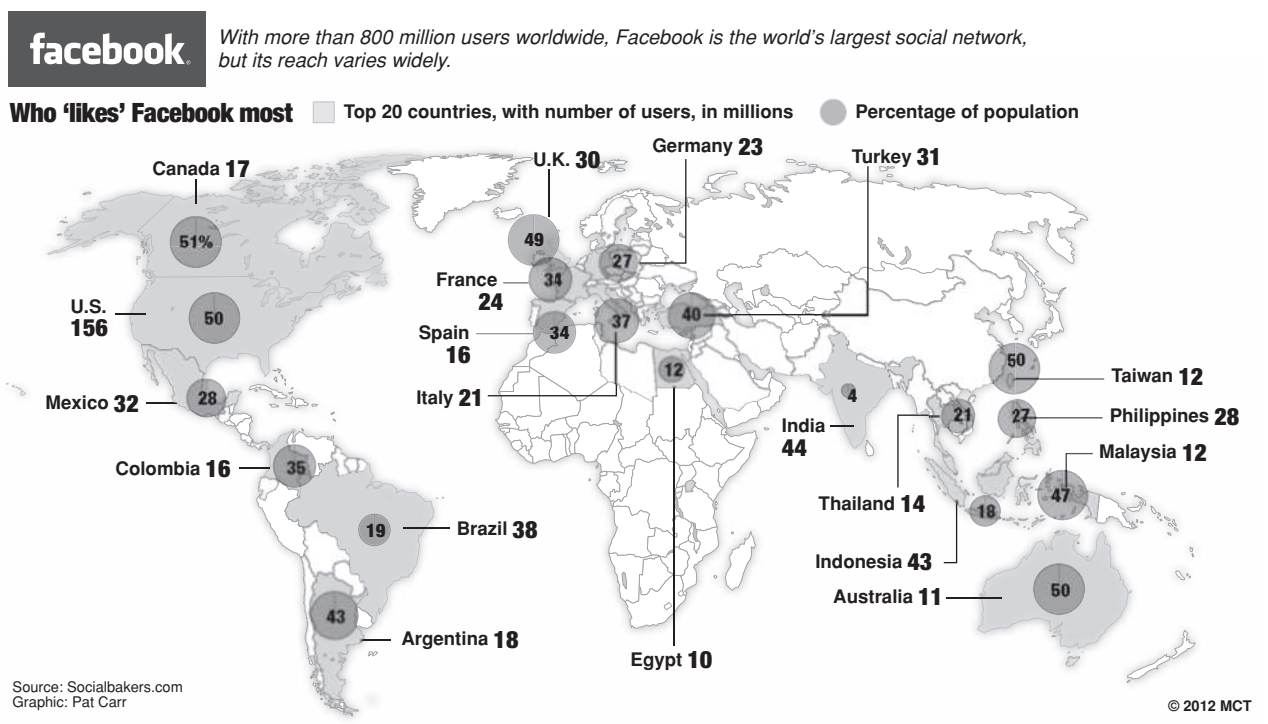
Facebook CEO turns 28, IPO could be $100B gift

NEW YORK (AP)—Don't let the hoodie and sneakers fool you. Mark Zuckerberg is no wet-behind-the-ears CEO.

Facebook's chief executive turns 28 on Monday, setting in motion the social network's biggest week ever. The company is expected to start selling stock to the public for the first time and begin trading on the Nasdaq Stock Market on Friday. The IPO could value Facebook at nearly $100 billion, making it worth more than such iconic companies as Disney, Ford and Kraft Foods.

At 28, Zuckerberg is exactly half the age of the average S&P 500 CEO, according to executive search firm Spencer Stuart. With eight years on the job, he's logged more time as leader than the average CEO, whose tenure is a little more than seven years, according to Spencer Stuart. Even so, the pressures of running a public company will undoubtedly take some getting used to. Once Facebook begins selling stock, Zuckerberg will be expected to please a host of new stakeholders, including Wall Street investment firms, hedge funds and pension funds who will pressure him to keep the company growing.

In this Feb. 5, 2007 file photo, Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg smiles in this office in Palo Alto, Calif. AP



Young as he may seem—especially in that hooded sweatshirt—Zuckerberg will be about the same age as Michael Dell and older than Steve Jobs when those two took their companies, Dell Inc. and Apple Inc., public. In his years as Facebook's CEO he's met world leaders, rode a bull in Vietnam while on vacation, started learning Mandarin Chinese and as a personal challenge, wore a tie for the better part of a year.

Facebook, of course, got its start in Zuckerberg's messy Harvard dorm room in early 2004. Known as Thefacebook.com back in those days, the site was created to help Harvard students—and later other college students—connect with one another online. The scrappy website later grew to include high-schoolers, then anyone else with an Internet connection. Today more than 900 million people log in at least once a month, making Facebook the world's definitive social network.

All along, Zuckerberg has shown a maturity beyond his years. As the site grew rapidly and caught the eye of big media and rival Internet companies, Zuckerberg consistently rebuffed mouth-watering buyout offers, including from Google Inc. and Yahoo Inc.

"Simply put: we don't build services to make money; we make money to build better services," wrote Zuckerberg in his letter to prospective shareholders. "And we think this is a good way to build something. These days I think more and more people want to use services from companies that believe in something beyond simply maximizing profits."

People who've observed Zuckerberg closely say his age is an asset. His is the generation that grew up with social networking, with computers all around them and the Internet as something that's always existed. Many of his employees are younger than him, as are a lot of the up-and-coming technology entrepreneurs with whom he competes.

"I don't think you could build a company like this if you were an old guy like me," says David Kirkpatrick, a 59-year-old author who chronicled the company's early history in "The Facebook Effect". Kirkpatrick, who is also founder of Techonomy, a media company that hosts conferences on the relationship between technology and economy and social progress, first met Zuckerberg six years ago. He says he was impressed with his vision, even then. "It's the willingness to take risks, the willingness to abide by a very contemporary vision ... I don't think that he's too young. I think most CEOs are too old."

Zuckerberg, who lives in Palo Alto, Calif. with his girlfriend and a white Hungarian Puli dog named Beast, has matured as a leader with the help of experienced mentors. One of his closest advisers is Sheryl Sandberg, whom he hired away from Google in 2008. Zuckerberg, known for sometimes-awkward public appearances, realized that the razor-sharp, people-savvy advertising executive complements his own shortcomings. Sandberg is Zuckerberg's No. 2, the chief operating officer who oversees advertising and often serves as Facebook's smiling, public face. Then there's Donald Graham, the 66-year-old CEO and chairman of The Washington Post Co., who serves as a mentor to Zuckerberg and holds a seat on Facebook's board of directors.

Rebecca Lieb, analyst at the Altimeter Group, says Zuckerberg has assembled a team of "truly exceptional lieutenants." David Ebersman, Facebook's chief financial officer, who hails from biotech firm Genentech, is another example. Zuckerberg hired him in 2009, saying that Ebersman's previous job, helping to scale the finance organization of the fast-growing biotech company "will be important to Facebook."

He was right. Facebook's revenue grew from $777 million in 2009 to $3.7 billion last year. In the first quarter of 2012 it was more than $1 billion.

Obviously, Zuckerberg still has a lot to learn. As part of Facebook's pre-IPO "roadshow" last week, Zuckerberg visited several venerable East Coast financial institutions wearing his signature hoodie. While Silicon Valley insiders defend his fashion choice, others saw it as a sign of immaturity. Was it, as some speculated, a sign of a rebellious 20-something acting out? For Michael Pachter, analyst at Wedbush Securities, Zuckerberg's attitude and attire symbolizes "a level of aloofness to stakeholders."

"He seems very customer focused and very employee focused. I am not sure he cares about anyone else... If he's going to go public, he has to answer to shareholders," Pachter says. "That's why Google hired Eric Schmidt. That's why Steve Jobs was ultimately forced out of Apple."

Jobs, in fact, was another Silicon Valley luminary who had Zuckerberg's ear. He was 25 in 1980 when Apple went public. He was ousted five years later after clashing with John Sculley, the former Pepsico executive Apple hired as chief executive. Jobs famously returned to lead Apple in 1997 and the company has thrived since.

Not much is known about the relationship Jobs and Zuckerberg shared, but Jobs reportedly told his biographer Walter Isaacson: "We talk about social networks in the plural, but I don't see anybody other than Facebook out there. Just Facebook, They are dominating this. I admire Mark Zuckerberg . . . for not selling out, for wanting to make a company. I admire that a lot."

When Jobs died last October, Zuckerberg wrote on his Facebook page, "Steve, thank you for being a mentor and a friend. Thanks for showing that what you build can change the world. I will miss you."

Jon Burgstone, professor at the Center for Entrepreneurship and Technology at the University of California, Berkeley, believes that Zuckerberg will need to keep his perspective and continue developing.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

JPMorgan exec expected to resign, AP source says

NEW YORK (AP)—JPMorgan Chase is expected to accept the resignation of one of the highest-ranking women on Wall Street after the bank lost $2 billion in a trading blunder, a person familiar with the matter said Sunday. The bank will accept the resignation of Ina Drew, its chief investment officer, the person told The Associated Press, speaking on condition of anonymity because the person was not authorized to discuss the decision publicly. Drew, 55, one of the highest-paid officials at JPMorgan Chase, had offered to resign several times since CEO Jamie Dimon disclosed the trading loss on Thursday, the person said. Pressure built on the bank over the weekend to accept. At least two other executives at the bank will be held accountable for the mistake, the person said.

Yahoo names Levinsohn interim CEO

NEW YORK (AP)—Yahoo swept out Scott Thompson as CEO Sunday in an effort to clean up a mess created by an exaggeration about his education that destroyed his credibility as he set out to turn around the long-troubled Internet company. Ross Levinsohn, who oversees Yahoo's content and advertising services, is taking over as interim CEO. He becomes the fourth person to run Yahoo in eight months. Yahoo hired Thompson, the former head of eBay's PayPal, in January to orchestrate a reversal. Though, Yahoo is one of the Internet's most-visited websites, the company has struggled to grow in face of competition from the likes of Google and Facebook. Thompson took the helm as Yahoo's fourth chief executive in less than five years. Thompson's abrupt exit after just four months on the job came as part of the latest shake-up on Yahoo's board of directors, which has been in a state of flux for several months.

Thompson

Avon says it's considering Coty buyout offer

NEW YORK (AP)—Cosmetics maker Avon changed course on a buyout offer it had previously rejected, declaring Sunday that it would consider selling itself to Coty after Coty sweetened the deal. In a sparse two-sentence statement, Avon said its board would respond to Coty within a week. Coty Inc. offered $23.25 for Avon on March 30, or about $10 billion. On Wednesday, Coty sent Avon a letter raising the price about 6.5 percent to $24.75 per share, or almost $10.7 billion. It demanded a response by Monday and said it would withdraw its offer otherwise. Avon Products Inc., whose brands include Skin-So-Soft, Anew and mark, had told Coty that it wouldn't discuss any revised offer until its new CEO, Sherilyn McCoy, finishes reviewing all of Avon's operations, according to Coty's letter. Coty said it was disappointed; agreeing to sell itself would be Avon's best hope for a turnaround, the smaller company said.

Nation

One in 3 autistic young adults lack jobs, education

By LINDSEY TANNER
AP MEDICAL WRITER

CHICAGO (AP)—One in 3 young adults with autism have no paid job experience, college or technical schooling nearly seven years after high school graduation, a study finds. That's a poorer showing than those with other disabilities including those who are mentally disabled, the researchers said.

With roughly half a million autistic kids reaching adulthood in the next decade, experts say it's an issue policymakers urgently need to address.

The study was done well before unemployment peaked from the recession. The situation today is tough even for young adults who don't have such limitations.

Ian Wells of Allentown, N.J., is 21, autistic and won't graduate from high school until next year. He is unlikely to attend college because of his autism. He wants a job but has only found unpaid internships and is currently working part-time and unpaid as a worker at a fastener factory.

He's a hard worker, with good mechanical skills, but has trouble reading and speaking, said his mother, Barbara Wells. She said his difficulties understanding social cues and body language can make other people uncomfortable.

ON THE NET
http://www.pediatrics.org

"I'm very afraid" about his prospects for ever finding long-term employment, she said. "It keeps me up at night."

The study, published online Monday in Pediatrics, was based on data from 2007-08. It found that within two years of leaving high school, more than half of those with autism had no job experience, college or technical education.

Things improved as they got older. Yet nearly seven years after high school, 35 percent of autistic young adults still had no paid employment or education beyond high school.

Those figures compare with 26 percent of mentally disabled young adults, 7 percent of young adults with speech and language problems, and 3 percent of those with learning disabilities.

Those with autism may fare worse because many also have each of the other disabilities studied.

The researchers analyzed data from a national study of kids receiving special education services, prepared for the U.S. Department of Education. About 2,000 young adults with one of four types of disabilities were involved, including 500 with autism.

It's the largest study to date on the topic and the results "are quite a cause for concern," said lead author Paul Shattuck, an assistant professor at Washington University's Brown School of Social Work in St. Louis.

"There is this wave of young children who have been diagnosed with autism who are aging toward adulthood. We're kind of setting ourselves up for a scary situation if we don't think about that and how we're going to help these folks and their families," Shattuck said.

Government data suggest that 1 in 88 U.S. kids have autism and there's evidence that the rate is rising.

Within the next 10 years, more than 500,000 kids with autism will reach adulthood, said Peter Bell, vice president for programs and services at Autism Speaks, an advocacy group that helped pay for the study.

"It's a huge, huge issue," Bell said. "Unfortunately there are many families that really struggle to understand what that transition ultimately entails. ...They face the reality of having a child who may potentially not be able to have enough services to keep them busy during the day."

"It's only going to get worse ..." Bell said.

His own 19-year-old son has autism and is being homeschooled and Bell has hired therapists to prepare him for jobs and other life skills.

Carol Schall, a special education policy specialist, said the results confirm smaller studies showing difficulties facing kids with autism as they transition into adulthood, and also highlight a need for better job training services offered in public schools for special education students.

She is involved in research at Virginia Commonwealth University investigating whether on-the-job training and teaching social cues to high school students with autism makes them more employable.

Kids are taught a range of practical skills and appropriate behavior. "It takes a much higher degree of intensity for them to learn skills" than for other kids, she said.

AP

This photo combo shows Rielle Hunter, left, in an Aug. 6, 2009, file photo, and former U.S. senator and presidential candidate John Edwards in a May 10, 2012 file photo.

John Edwards' mistress led a tabloid-grade life

GREENSBORO, N.C. (AP)—Rielle Hunter's life had a lurid, supermarket-tabloid quality to it—full of deception, betrayal, reckless behavior and broken dreams—well before she became a party to one of the biggest lies in recent American political history.

Her father had her beloved show horse killed for insurance money. An ex-boyfriend used her as his muse for the "cocaine-addled, sexually voracious" narrator of one of his novels. She went to Hollywood to become a star and left about a decade later with only a few bit parts.

Through it all, Hunter considered herself a truth-seeker.

"For as long as I can remember, I had a relentless desire for truth," she said on her personal website in the mid-2000s.

Then she met John Edwards in the bar of a New York hotel in 2006. Hunter said they had a connection the instant their eyes met, and a few hours later she was spending the night in the Democratic presidential candidate's room.

Their relationship led to a landslide of lies.

First, they had to hide their relationship. She stayed silent as Edwards publicly professed his love for his cancer-stricken wife, Elizabeth, and the two renewed their wedding vows.

When she got pregnant with Edwards' child, she agreed to protect his presidential ambitions by letting the candidate's devoted right-hand man claim paternity. Then she had to listen on TV as Edwards said it was impossible for him to be the father.

Whether Edwards is telling the truth or not is now at the center of his campaign finance trial, under way in North Carolina. Edwards' lawyers said the candidate had no idea nearly $1 million from a pair of wealthy benefactors was being spent to hide Hunter and keep her away from the tabloids during Edwards' run for the White House. Prosecutors said Edwards orchestrated the cover-up.

Prosecutors rested their case Thursday without calling the 48-year-old Hunter to the stand, despite granting her immunity. They refused to say why. But legal experts said she can be flighty and unpredictable and could have proved dangerous to the government's case.

Edwards' lawyers have not said whether they will call her to testify, but she could be hazardous to the defense for the same reason. Also, legal experts said, her appearance on the stand might only hurt Edwards with the jury by emphasizing his cheating and lying.

Hunter was born Lisa Jo Druck. Her father was a prominent lawyer, and she lived a privileged life growing up in Florida. Hunter, who adopted her new name in 1994 while out in Hollywood, said both her parents cheated in their marriage.

She loved horses, especially her show horse Henry The Hawk, which her father bought for $150,000. But in 1982, he was short on cash. He had an insurance policy on the animal worth $150,000 and taught a man named Tommy "The Sandman" Burns how to electrocute a horse so that it would look like a death from natural causes.

Hunter found her beloved horse dead in its stall, and her father later confessed to the scheme, according to a Sports Illustrated story on Burns, who eventually went to prison for his role in a string of horse killings. Hunter's father died in 1990 before any charges were brought against him.

Ivy League school janitor graduates with honors

NEW YORK (AP)—For years, Gac Filipaj mopped floors, cleaned toilets and took out trash at Columbia University.

A refugee from war-torn Yugoslavia, he eked out a living working for the Ivy League school. But Sunday was payback time: The 52-year-old janitor donned a cap and gown to graduate with a bachelor's degree in classics.

As a Columbia employee, he didn't have to pay for the classes he took. His favorite subject was the Roman philosopher and statesman Seneca, the janitor said during a break from his work at Lerner Hall, the student union building he cleans.

"I love Seneca's letters because they're written in the spirit in which I was educated in my family—not to look for fame and fortune, but to have a simple, honest, honorable life," he said.

His graduation with honors capped a dozen years of studies, including readings in ancient Latin and Greek.

"This is a man with great pride, whether he's doing custodial work or academics," said Peter Awn, dean of Columbia's School of General Studies and professor of Islamic studies. "He is immensely humble and grateful, but he's one individual who makes his own future."

Filipaj was accepted at Columbia after first learning English; his mother tongue is Albanian.

For Filipaj, the degree comes after years of studying late into the night in his Bronx apartment, where he'd open his books after a 2:30-11 p.m. shift as a "heavy cleaner"—his job title. Before exam time or to finish a paper, he'd pull all-nighters, then go to class in the morning and then to work.

AP

Columbia University janitor Gac Filipaj, center, is congratulated by his boss, Donald Schlosser, the assistant vice president of facility operations, during the Columbia University School of General Studies graduation, Sunday, May 13, 2012, in New York.

On Sunday morning in the sun-drenched grassy quad of Columbia's Manhattan campus, Filipaj flashed a huge smile and a thumbs-up as he walked off the podium after a handshake from Columbia President Lee Bollinger.

Later, Filipaj got a big hug from his boss, Donald Schlosser, Columbia's assistant vice president for campus operations.

Bollinger presided over a ceremony in which General Studies students received their graduation certificates. They also can attend Wednesday's commencement of all Columbia graduates, most of whom are in their 20s.

Filipaj wasn't much older in 1992 when he left Montenegro, then a Yugoslav republic facing a brutal civil war.

An ethnic Albanian and Roman Catholic, he left his family farm in the tiny village of Donja Klezna outside the city of Ulcinj because he was about to be drafted into the Yugoslav army led by Serbs, who considered many Albanians their enemy.

He fled after almost finishing law school in Belgrade, Yugoslavia's capital, where he commuted for years by train from Montenegro.

At first in New York, his uncle in the Bronx offered him shelter while he worked as a restaurant busboy.

"I asked people, which are the best schools in New York?" he says. Since Columbia topped his list, "I went there to see if I could get a job."

Part of his $22-an-hour janitor's pay still goes back to his brother, sister-in-law and two kids in Montenegro. Filipaj has no computer, but he bought one for the family, whose income comes mostly from selling milk.

Filipaj also saves by not paying for a cellphone; he can only be reached via landline.

He wishes his father were alive to enjoy his achievement. The elder Filipaj died in April, and the son flew over for the funeral, returning three days later for work and classes.

To relax at home, he enjoys an occasional cigarette and some "grappa" brandy.

"And if I have too much, I just go to sleep," he says, laughing.

During an interview with The Associated Press in a Lerner Hall conference room, Filipaj didn't show the slightest regret or bitterness about his tough life. Instead, he cheerfully described encounters with surprised younger students who wonder why their classmate is cleaning up after them.

Asia

China tensions spur deeper US-Philippine alliance

By MATTHEW PENNINGTON
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP)—China's assertive behavior is breathing life into America's historically tumultuous relationship with the Philippines.

With Washington turning its attention more to the Asia-Pacific region, the U.S. and the Philippines last week held the first joint meeting of their top diplomats and defense chiefs. The U.S. increased military aid and resolved to help its ally on maritime security.

The steps came with the Philippines locked in a standoff with China over competing territorial claims in the South China Sea that has stoked passions on both sides. The U.S. is a walking a delicate diplomatic line. It doesn't want the dispute to escalate, but it is showing where its strategic interests lie.

The relationship between the U.S. and its former colony thrived during the Cold War but ebbed after nationalist political forces prompted the closure of American military bases in 1992. As the U.S. seeks to build a stronger presence in Southeast Asia, a region it neglected during the past decade of war in Afghanistan and Iraq, the alliance is assuming growing importance.

For its part, the Philippines is looking to Washington and its allies to help equip and train the nation's bedraggled military, to put up a show of resistance to Chinese vessels that frequently sail into waters Manila considers to lie within its exclusive economic zone.

Ernest Bower, director of the Southeast Asia program at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, said it is very important for the U.S. to solidify its ties with its traditional allies in the region.

"The relationship with the Philippines went south when the U.S. lost Subic Bay (naval base) and Clark (Air Base). The hangover is wearing off and interests are aligning again."

But for both sides, managing the new chapter in their alliance is something of a balancing act and carries its own risks.

Nationalist sentiments still make an increased American military presence in the Philippines a sensitive issue, and its law forbids a foreign base on its soil. Like other Southeast Asian nations, the Philippines does not want to alienate the region's economic powerhouse, with which it aims to have $60 billion in two-way trade by 2016.

And the U.S. also still needs to get along with China to prevent their strategic rivalry from spiraling into confrontation.

The 60-year-old mutual defense treaty between the U.S. and the Philippines has the potential to put Washington in hot water in standoffs like the one playing out at the Scarborough Shoal, where Philippine and Chinese vessels have been facing off since April 10. Manila appears adamant that the U.S. would be duty-bound to come to the Philippines' assistance should a conflict break out, but the U.S. has hedged on the issue.

The broader trend is that for the past two years the U.S. has declared its "national interest" in freedom of navigation and peaceful settlement of disputes in the busy South China Sea. It has expanded its military cooperation with the Philippines into maritime security after a decade of focusing on fighting al-Qaida-linked militants in the country's south. And the U.S. has increased its foreign military financing to the Philippines, which was slashed last year, to $30 million this year, double what was initially budgeted.

More than 100 hurt in Bangladesh clashes

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP)—More than 100 people including many police were injured in clashes Sunday between opposition activists and security officials in southeastern Bangladesh, witnesses said.

The United News of Bangladesh news agency said the violence broke out in Chittagong when police blocked a protest march by Jamaat-e-Islami, the country's largest Islamic party. It said police swung batons and fired tear gas to disperse the stone-throwing protesters.

Witnesses said at least 100 people were injured.

Local journalist Osman Gani Mansur said the protesters smashed at least 50 vehicles and set fire to at least three others in Chittagong, Bangladesh's second-largest city, 215 kilometers (135 miles) southeast of Dhaka.

Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury, an opposition spokesman, said dozens of protesters were arrested.

The main opposition Bangladesh Nationalist Party and its 17 allies including Jamaat-e-Islami held rallies across the country Sunday to protest the disappearance of one of its leaders.

The opposition blames the government and security agencies for the disappearance of Elias Ali on April 17 but authorities deny the allegation.

The opposition alliance staged nationwide general strikes for five days last month to demand that the government find Ali. It also is insisting that the government of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina restore a system of caretaker governments to oversee general elections, which are next due in 2014. The government scrapped the 15-year-old system last year, and the opposition accuses it of planning to rig the elections.

Amnesty International and New York-based Human Rights Watch have expressed concern over recent disappearances in the country and urged Bangladesh to investigate them.

At least 22 people have disappeared this year, according to the local rights group Ain-o-Salish Kendra. Another group, Odhikar, says more than 50 people have disappeared since 2010. Many of those missing are politicians.

AP

In this April 30, 2012, file photo Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of Defense Leon E. Panetta, right, Philippines' Secretary of National Defense Voltaire Gazmin, left, and Secretary of Foreign Affairs Albert del Rosario speak at a news conference at the Department of State in Washington.

ASIAN BRIEFS

11 dead as overloaded bus crashes in Philippines

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Police in the northern Philippines say a minibus so overloaded that passengers were riding on the rooftop has plunged into a 150-meter (500-foot) deep ravine. Eleven people are dead and another 10 injured. Provincial police chief William Bequeno says the vehicle lost control Sunday while negotiating a rough patch of a mountain road. The modified Jeep, known as a jeepney and the most popular mode of public transport in the Philippines, was carrying nearly 30 passengers. It wasn't clear whether the driver survived.

Plane with 21 crashes in Nepal; survivors reported

KATMANDU, Nepal (AP)—A plane carrying 21 people crashed Monday while trying to land at a mountain airstrip in Nepal's northern Himalayas, police said. Survivors were reported but it wasn't clear how many, police official Nareswor Aryal said. Sixteen people are Indian and two passengers are Westerners, he said. Aryal couldn't immediately say where those two are from. The injured people were taken to a local hospital, said Aryal, who is posted at Jomsom town. The Jomsom Airport is a gateway to a popular tourist and trekking destination. It is about 200 kilometers (125 miles) northwest of the capital, Katmandu.

Climbers try to reach jet's black box in Indonesia

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)—Indonesian special forces traversed the sheer slope of a volcano Monday after spotting what they believe is the flight recorder of a new Russian-made passenger jet that crashed during a demonstration flight for potential buyers. It's not clear what caused the Sukhoi Superjet-100 to roar into Mount Salak at 480 mph (800 kph) last week. All 45 people aboard are presumed dead, and helicopters have been ferrying the remains to Jakarta, the capital, for identification. Search teams believe they spotted the flight and data recorder, also known as the "black box," peeking from wreckage at the bottom of a 1,500 -foot (500) -meter ravine, said Tatang Kurniadi, who heads the National Transportation Safety Commission.

Filipino troops clash with rebel hitmen; 3 killed

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippine military says army soldiers have battled suspected communist rebel assassins in a clash that killed three combatants in a central village. Army Maj. Gen. Jose Mabanta Sr. says about a dozen soldiers, guided by villagers, raided a house in a farming village in Negros Oriental province where New People's Army guerrillas were sighted Saturday. Mabanta says one soldier and two guerrillas were killed. One guerrilla was captured and several others fled from the house, where troops found two pistols and a grenade. Army spokesman Maj. Enrico Illeto said Sunday that the rebels were believed to be part of a special hit squad behind the recent killings of government militiamen.

Gunman kills member of Afghan peace council

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—A gunman in a car assassinated a former high-ranking Taliban official working to end the decade-long war in Afghanistan, dealing a powerful blow Sunday to the fragile, U.S.-backed effort to bring peace to the country.

Arsala Rahmani, a top member of the Afghan peace council and a senator in Parliament, was killed a week before a key NATO summit and just hours before President Hamid Karzai announced the third stage of a five-part transition that is supposed to put Afghan security forces in control of their country by the end of 2014.

Police said an assassin with a silencer-equipped pistol shot Rahmani, who was in his 70s, as he was riding in his car in one of the capital's most secure areas, near Kabul University. The gunman fired from a white Toyota Corolla that pulled up alongside Rahmani's vehicle at an intersection. Rahmani's driver rushed him to a hospital, but he died on the way, police said.

Rahmani was a former deputy minister of higher education in the Taliban regime that was ousted by the U.S.-led invasion in 2001. He eventually reconciled with the government and was trying to set up formal talks with the insurgents.

The killing was another setback to efforts to negotiate a political resolution to the war. In September 2011, former Afghan President Burhanuddin Rabbani, who was head of the peace council, was assassinated in his Kabul home by a suicide bomber posing as a peace emissary from the Taliban.

The Taliban denied responsibility for Rahmani's killing, although they had publicly threatened to target peace negotiators and others working with the government.

Agha Jan Motasim, a member of the Taliban leadership council known as the Quetta Shura, condemned Rahmani's assassination.

"He was a good Muslim. He was a nationalist and worked for an Islamic system in Afghanistan. We respected him," Motasim said from Turkey, where he is recovering from gunshot wounds suffered last year in Pakistan.

The U.S.-led coalition is trying to wind down its involvement in Afghanistan by finding a political resolution to the war and training Afghan security forces to take the lead in protecting their homeland. But a recent rise in violence has raised concerns about the Afghan government's readiness to assume responsibility for the country's security. If the government fails, the Taliban could stage a comeback.

The third and latest phase in the transition to Afghan-led security was announced with fanfare by Afghan officials.

Ashraf Ghani, head of a commission overseeing the transition, said that this stage—which ends with the Afghans taking the lead in areas representing 75 percent of the population of some 34 million—should be complete within six months.

"The third transition will be difficult—we don't want to lie to the Afghan people," Ghani acknowledged last week. But he added that the nation is strongly determined to take control of its own affairs.

Karzai's announcement means that Afghan forces already, or soon will, lead security in all 34 provincial capitals and 260 of Afghanistan's more than 360 districts. When the third phase of transition is complete, nearly a dozen provinces in their entirety will be under Afghan control.

World

49 headless bodies dumped on Mexico highway

MONTERREY, Mexico (AP)—Forty-nine bodies with their heads, hands and feet hacked off were found Sunday dumped on a northern Mexico highway leading to the Texas border in what appeared to be the latest carnage in an escalating war between Mexico's two dominant drug cartels.

Local and federal authorities discovered the bodies before dawn lying in a pool of blood at the entrance to the desert town of San Juan, on a highway leading from the metropolis of Monterrey to the border city of Reynosa. A white stone arch welcoming visitors was spray-painted with black letters: "100% Zeta."

Nuevo Leon state security spokesman Jorge Domene said at a news conference that the 43 men and six women would be hard to identify because of the lack of heads, hands and feet. The bodies were being taken to a Monterrey auditorium for DNA tests.

The victims could have been killed as long as two days ago at another location, then transported to San Juan, a town in Cadereyta municipality about 105 miles (175 kilometers) west-southwest of McAllen, Texas, and 75 miles (125 kilometers) southwest of the Roma, Texas, border crossing, state Attorney General Adrian de la Garza said.

De la Garza said he did not rule out the possibility that the victims were U.S.-bound migrants.

But it seemed more likely that the killings were the latest salvo in a gruesome game of tit-for-tat in fighting among brutal drug gangs.

"This is the most definitive of all the cartel wars," said Raul Benitez Manaut, a security expert at Mexico's National Autonomous University.

Mass body dumpings have increased around Mexico the last six months as the fearsome Zetas gang goes head to head with the powerful Sinaloa Cartel, led by fugitive drug lord Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman.

Under President Felipe Calderon's nearly six-year assault on organized crime, the two cartels have become the largest in the country and are battling over strategic transport routes and territory, including along the northern border with the U.S. and in the Gulf coast state of Veracruz.

In less than a month, the mutilated bodies of 14 men were left in a van in downtown Nuevo Laredo, 23 people were found hanged or decapitated in the same border city and 18 dismembered bodied were left near Mexico's second-largest city, Guadalajara. Nuevo Laredo, like Monterrey, is considered Zeta territory, while Guadalajara has long been controlled by gangs loyal to Sinaloa.

AP

Forensic experts examine the area where dozens of bodies, some of them mutilated, were found on a highway connecting the northern Mexican metropolis of Monterrey to the U.S. border in the town of San Juan near the city of Monterrey, Mexico, Sunday, May 13, 2012.

The Zetas are a transient gang without real territory or a secure stream of income, unlike Sinaloa with its lucrative cocaine trade and control of smuggling routes and territory, Benitez said. But the Zetas are heavily armed while Sinaloa has a weak enforcement arm, he said. The Zetas, founded by deserters from Mexico's elite special forces, started out as assassins for the Gulf Cartel before those two gangs had a bloody split in early 2010.

The government's success in killing or arresting cartel leaders has fractured some of the big gangs into weaker, quarreling bands that in many cases are lining up with either the Zetas or Sinaloa. At least one of the two cartels is present in nearly all of Mexico's 32 states.

A year ago this month, more than two dozen people—most of them Zetas—were killed when they tried to infiltrate the Sinaloa's territory in the Pacific Coast state of Nayarit.

But their war started in earnest last fall in Veracruz, a strategic smuggling state with a giant gulf port.

A drug gang allied with Sinaloa left 35 bodies at a freeway overpass in the city of Veracruz in September, and police found 32 other bodies, apparently killed by the same gang, a few days after that. The goal apparently was to take over territory that had been dominated by the Zetas.

Twenty-six bodies were found in November in Guadalajara, another territory being disputed by the Zetas and Sinaloa.

Drug violence has killed more than 47,500 people since Calderon launched a stepped-up offensive when he took office in December 2006.

Mexico is now in the midst of presidential race to replace Calderon, who by law can't run for re-election. Drug violence seems to be escalating, but none of the major candidates, Enrique Pena Nieto, Josefina Vazquez Mota or Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador, has referred to the body dumpings directly. All three say they will stop the violence and make Mexico a more secure place, but offer few details on how their plans would differ from Calderon's.

Benitez said the wave of violence has nothing to do with the presidential election.

"It has the dynamic of a war between cartels," he said.

AP: Drawing focuses on Iran's nuke work

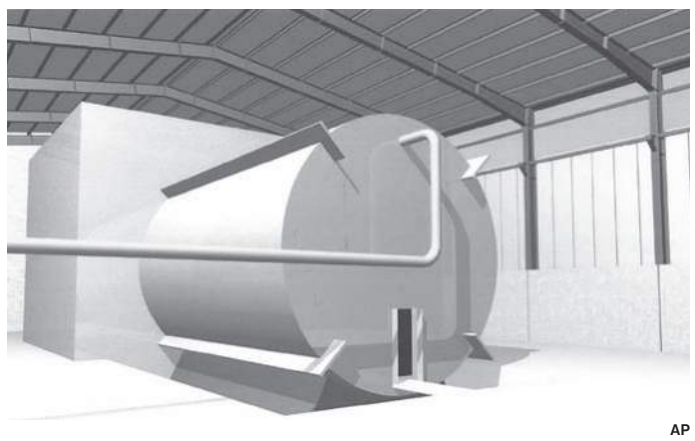
VIENNA (AP)—A drawing based on information from inside an Iranian military site shows an explosives containment chamber of the type needed for nuclear arms-related tests that U.N. inspectors suspect Tehran has conducted there. Iran denies such testing and has neither confirmed nor denied the existence of such a chamber.

The computer-generated drawing was provided to The Associated Press by an official of a country tracking Iran's nuclear program who said it proves the structure exists, despite Tehran's refusal to acknowledge it.

That official said the image is based on information from a person who had seen the chamber at the Parchin military site, adding that going into detail would endanger the life of that informant. The official comes from an IAEA member country that is severely critical of Iran's assertions that its nuclear activities are peaceful and asserts they are a springboard for making atomic arms.

A former senior IAEA official said he believes the drawing is accurate. Olli Heinonen, until last year the U.N. nuclear agency's deputy director general in charge of the Iran file, said it was "very similar" to a photo he recently saw that he believes to be the pressure chamber the IAEA suspects is at Parchin.

He said even the colors of the computer-generated drawing matched that of the photo he had but declined to go into the origins of the photo to protect his source.



AP

This undated rendering said to come from inside Iran's Parchin military site and obtained by The Associated Press from an official of a country tracking Iran's nuclear activities, shows a chamber of the type needed for nuclear arms-related tests that U.N. inspectors suspect Tehran has conducted at the site.

After months of being rebuffed, IAEA and Iranian officials meet starting Monday in Vienna, and the IAEA will renew its attempt to gain access to the chamber, allegedly hidden in a building. Any evidence that Iran is hiding such an explosives containment tank, and details on how it functions, is significant for IAEA investigations.

Beyond IAEA hopes of progress, that two-day meeting is being closely watched by six powers trying to persuade Iran to make nuclear concessions aimed at reducing fears that it may want to develop atomic arms as a mood-setter for May 23 talks between the six and Tehran in Baghdad.

Warnings by Israel that it may attack Iran's nuclear facilities eased after Iran and the six—the United States, Russia, China, Britain, France and Germany—met last month and agreed there was enough common will for the Baghdad round. But with the Jewish state saying it is determined to stop Iran before it develops the capacity to build nuclear weapons, failure at the Iraq talks could turn such threats into reality.

In Tehran on Sunday, Saeed Jalili, Iran's top nuclear negotiator, said it was up to the Western nations coming to the Baghdad talks to "build trust of the Iranian nation," adding, "Any kind of miscalculation by the West will block success of the talks."

The IAEA has been stonewalled by Iran for more than four years in attempts to probe what it says is intelligence from member states strongly suggesting that Iran secretly worked on developing nuclear weapons.

It first mentioned the suspected existence of the chamber in a November report that described "a large explosives containment vessel" for experiments on triggering a nuclear explosion, adding that it had satellite images "consistent with this information."

It did not detail what the images showed. But a senior diplomat familiar with the IAEA's investigation who has also seen the image provided to the AP said they revealed a cylinder similar to the image at Parchin. Subsequent photos showed a roof and walls going up around the cylinder that then hid the chamber from satellite surveillance.

IAEA chief Yukiya Amano said in March that his agency has "credible information that indicates that Iran engaged in activities relevant to the development of nuclear explosive devices" at the site. Diplomats subsequently told the AP that the experiments also appear to have involved a small prototype neutron device used to spark a nuclear explosion—equipment that would be tested only if a country was trying to develop atomic weapons.

WORLD BRIEFS

Syrians raid village, violence bleeds into Lebanon

BEIRUT (AP)—Syrian forces killed at least five people when they raided a Sunni farming village on Sunday, torching homes and looting shops in what activists said is a sign of worsening relations among the country's religious groups. Tensions stemming from the 14-month-old uprising against President Bashar Assad also touched off clashes across the border in Lebanon as the revolt threatened to morph into a broader conflict. The relentless violence further undermines a U.N.-backed peace plan that is supposed to bring an end to Syria's deadly crisis. A cease-fire that was supposed to begin on April 12 has had only a limited effect, throwing into doubt the rest of the plan that calls for talks between Assad's regime and those seeking to end his rule.

Deal looks near to end Palestianian hunger strike

JERUSALEM (AP)—Egyptian and Palestinian officials said Sunday they were close to reaching a deal with Israel that would end a mass hunger strike by Palestinians in Israeli jails. Some 1,600 Palestinian prisoners are on strike, most for a month, but three have refused food for more than 70 days. They launched the strike to press their demands for better conditions and an end to detention without trial. An Egyptian-drafted proposal calls for Israel to move prisoners currently held in solitary confinement to regular cells, and allow families from Hamas-ruled Gaza to leave the seaside strip to visit imprisoned relatives, an Egyptian official said on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the discussions.

Greek coalition in serious doubt

ATHENS, Greece (AP)—Critical talks to form a governing coalition in crisis-struck Greece foundered once more, leading the country one step closer to new elections—and bringing its continued presence in the euro into serious doubt. Last-ditch efforts by President Karolos Papoulias to broker a deal between wrangling party leaders ended with no deal in sight late Sunday, a week after national elections produced a deadlock, with no party winning enough seats to form a government. State television said talks would continue Monday evening between the heads of the parties that came in the top three spots in the elections, the conservative New Democracy, radical left-wing Syriza and socialist PASOK, plus the head of the small Democratic Left party, which is in a king-maker position.

Focus

Gay rights backers see history in Obama's stand

AP

Mary Lea Bradford of Winston-Salem, left, Mary Jamis of Mocksville, center and Christine Regan of Winston-Salem stage a sit-in after being refused marriage licenses at the Forsyth County Register of Deeds office in Winston-Salem, N.C., Thursday, May 10, 2012. The civil disobedience came a day after President Barack Obama publicly endorsed same-sex marriage, and two days after North Carolina voters overwhelmingly passed a constitutional amendment that defines marriage as solely between a man and a woman.

NEW YORK (AP)—At a birthplace of the gay rights movement, patrons of New York City's Stonewall Inn said they felt like they were living history. In Wyoming, the mother of a man beaten to death because of his sexuality said words couldn't express her gratitude. An 82-year-old photographer who chronicled protests in the 1960s called it "a new dawn."

President Barack Obama's declaration Wednesday that he supports gay marriage may have lacked the urgency of Kennedy's 1963 push for the Civil Rights Act, or the force and finality of the Emancipation Proclamation, but it was still being greeted as a major milestone among people who care about gay rights.

"It signifies a history-changing moment when a president finally says, `I'm on your side.' It's a critical moment," said Stacy Lentz, a co-owner of the Stonewall, a reincarnated version of the unlicensed gay bar in Manhattan's West Village that was the site of riots following a police raid in 1969.

Just how big of a moment remains to be seen. While public opinion polls show an increasing number of Americans are receptive of gay marriage, and accepting of homosexuality in general, the movement hasn't fared well at the ballot box. On Tuesday, North Carolina voters overwhelmingly approved a constitutional amendment defining marriage as between a man and a woman.

Still, at mileposts and bastions in the struggle, Obama's words were being welcomed.

VERMONT

Holly Puterbaugh, 65, and her partner, Lois Farnham, were among the three Vermont same-sex couples who sued the state in 1997 after they were denied a marriage license. Their lawsuit led to the 1999 court decision that made Vermont the first state to recognize same-sex civil unions.

Back then, Puterbaugh never would have believed a president would someday back same-sex marriage, she said in a phone interview Thursday.

"We've come a lot further a lot faster than I thought we would," she said. "In '99, civil union was considered the most outrageously liberal thing going. Now it's the conservative fallback.

"That tells me people are looking, they are thinking, they are starting to really examine this as a true issue," she said.

Another couple in that landmark lawsuit, Nina Beck and Stacy Jolles, had also viewed same-sex marriage as a romantic ideal, and maybe a legal longshot, when they took up the fight. Now, things have changed.

"When we went to the city hall in South Burlington to ask for a marriage license, it was very simply the first step on what we thought would be a very long road, but we had to take the first step," Beck said. "I don't think either of us ever imagined that we necessarily would be, you know, 15 or 16 years later in the position of hearing the president of the United States come out in support of same-sex marriage. But it's an amazing and wondrous thing that, here we are."

WYOMING

To social conservatives and some church leaders, the debate over gay marriage is partly about government intrusion on an institution that, at its core, is based in the deepest religious traditions.

To others, it's about eradicating hate.

In late 1998, Matthew Shepard, a slender, 21-year-old student at the University of Wyoming, was robbed, fatally beaten and tied to a fence by two men he met in a bar in Laramie. The killers, police said, targeted him because he was gay. His death prompted changes. Congress passed hate crimes legislation bearing his name in 2009.

Now, Shepard's mother, Judy, hopes Obama's words might get people thinking again, and not just about marriage.

"To me, that's what this issue is—a matter of civil rights," she said.

"He's following the change of the nation as a whole, I think," Shepard said of Obama. "But to have the actual president say he's in favor of it, when our previous president was so public about being against it, is just so big. I can't even ... there's no words."

The Wyoming Legislature, where Republicans outnumber Democrats 76-14, last year considered but ultimately rejected a proposal that would have barred recognition of same-sex marriages performed in other states.

State Rep. Cathy Connolly, D-Laramie, a lesbian, said she believes that feelings about gays and lesbians in the state are different than they were in 1998. Even in a state Legislature that could be defined as very conservative, she said anti-gay measures are seen as inappropriate.

"Times have changed," Connolly said.

NEW YORK

In 1969, the New York Daily News trumpeted the dawn of the gay rights movement with this headline: "Homo Nest Raided, Queen Bees Are Stinging Mad."

In the story that followed, about riots in a gay neighborhood following the police raid at Stonewall Inn, the paper taunted the club's patrons as "little girls" and "ladies-in-waiting." They didn't speak or walk, they "lisped" and "pranced," and were described as being more concerned about their hairdos being disturbed than social justice.

That kind of disparaging language hasn't disappeared from the American dialogue quite yet, and even as Obama's remarks were celebrated, gay and lesbian leaders like Christine Quinn, the speaker of New York's City Council, noted that they came shortly after the hurtful vote in North Carolina.

"It is an upsetting thing, to think about people going into the voting booth and casting a vote that, in essence, is against who I am and against what my family is. That's upsetting," she said. "Whether you're the speaker of the City Council or a 13-year-old girl, that hurts. Who likes to think about people not liking them? ... It's something that eats at you, whether you want to admit it or not."

Quinn said the president's words were an emotional salve after that ballot-box loss—a sentiment that was shared by patrons at the Stonewall, where a sign outside the door Wednesday night said, "Obama supports gay marriage. Let's drink."

"We've never had a president that stood up for us," said patron Nancy Pizarro, as she sat with friends at the bar. "I feel like I'm living history."

New York last year became the largest state to recognize same-sex marriage, with a surprise vote in the legislature, quickly signed into law by Gov. Andrew Cuomo.

WASHINGTON

Lilli Vincenz, 74, was one of about a dozen people who were part of the first gay rights protest in front of the White House in 1965, back in an era when almost no one in power took the issue seriously.

"It was so important that we become visible, because we weren't really visible before," said Vincenz, who now lives in Arlington, Va., and for decades has driven a car with a license plate that reads "Change."

Vincenz said she was proud to march that day, and she is thrilled that Obama has embraced gay marriage.

"It's very important, and it's very important for the rest of the United States," said Vincenz, who was discharged from the Army in 1963 for being gay.

Vincenz and her partner, Nancy Ruth Davis, held a commitment ceremony in Key West, Fla., in 1986, but they are not legally married. Obama's announcement got her thinking about marrying legally, she said, though she doesn't particularly want to travel to one of the six states and the District of Columbia that allow same-sex marriage.

Kay Tobin Lahusen, 82, a photojournalist who chronicled the early gay rights movement in the 1960s and marched in many early protests, called the president's announcement "a new dawn for our movement."

She said that during one of the early protests at the White House, demonstrators handed a letter to someone at the White House gates, hoping it would get to President Lyndon Johnson. They never learned if it did.

In those early days, she said, gay marriage seemed "out of the question" and "the impossible dream."

"Much of the movement thought it was just impossible and fanciful and perhaps just a little bit trivial," she said. "I felt it was absolutely key to our movement. I always believed it was something we should fight for."

Lahusen, who now lives in Kennett Square, Pa., never married her partner of 46 years, Barbara Gittings, who died in 2007. But she said the two were "married in our hearts."

MASSACHUSETTS

Politically, Obama might be taking a big risk by weighing in on gay marriage, just as the presidential contest is taking shape.

David Wilson, 68, one of the first gay men to legally marry in Massachusetts, said he would have been content if the president waited until after the election to declare his support, but was ecstatic he didn't.

"It was a complete validation of all the work that we've done," he said.

Wilson and his husband, Rob Compton, 62, were married on May 17, 2004, the first day they could legally wed. They now live in Provincetown, Mass.

Wilson said he thought most of all about what the announcement says to his five adult children and seven grandchildren, who talk about marriage equality in school.

"They always look for other role models to help tell the story, and what better role model than to have the president of the United States stand up for their two papas," he said.

"President Obama has legitimized our marriage and also the word that comes to mind is normalcy. It feels like it's one step closer to normalcy," Wilson said. "So this is just one more way for the country to see our relationships, our marriage, as not just legal, but legitimate and normal."

SAN FRANCISO

There were limits to Obama's support for gay marriage. Notably, he said he believed that it was up to individual states to decide whether they would legalize same-sex marriages. That contrasted sharply with President John F. Kennedy's forceful condemnation of segregation in a nationally televised address in 1963, during which he called for federal legislation to end racial discrimination, and said states couldn't be left to deal with matters on their own.

At low-key celebrations in San Francisco's historically gay Castro District on Wednesday night, Cleve Jones, a protégé of slain gay rights pioneer Harvey Milk, said he spent time trying to explain "how long it's taken us to get to this point" to young people who reacted cynically to the president's announcement.

He said the closest historical precedent to Obama's statement was the opposition from then-President Jimmy Carter and his soon-to-be successor, Ronald Reagan, to a 1978 California ballot initiative that would have prevented gays and lesbians from teaching in the state's public schools.

"It is historic. It would be difficult to overstate the significance of it to the movement," Jones said.

Stuart Gaffney, a plaintiff in a lawsuit challenging the legality of a California constitutional amendment outlawing same-sex unions, also said there was much to celebrate in the president's remarks.

"I have never felt so proud to be an American," he said. "I think the president looked at this with his heart, not as a political calculation, but what's the right thing to do? That's what any president should do. He stood on the side of love."

MICHIGAN

In the early 1970s, a waiter left his shift at a restaurant in the college town of East Lansing, Mich., and was greeted affectionately by his boyfriend. His manager saw. The waiter was fired on the spot. It was legal.

George Griffiths, who turned 83 on Thursday, was a member of both the local American Civil Liberties Union board and the East Lansing City Council at the time.

He knew the ACLU couldn't regulate a private employer—but thought maybe the city could protect its employees or job candidates from discrimination.

In 1972, he became among the majority of council members to adopt an anti-discrimination measure in hiring practices for the city—the first such ordinance in the nation.

He experienced little backlash within the communities of East Lansing and Michigan State University, he said, though he recalled occasional criticism by voters during subsequent—but successful—campaigns for higher office. He served as Ingham County's drain commissioner for 12 years, retiring in 1993.

Griffiths sees Obama's announcement as a natural progression from the steps he and his colleagues took 40 years ago.

"It's a glacial movement," he said, "but I think people are coming around."

Overdrive

BMW 335i: Beauty of new 3-series is beneath the skin

The 2012 BMW 335i sedan has more passenger and luggage room, a more powerful base engine and better fuel economy. MCT

By MARK PHELAN
DETROIT FREE PRESS

The 2012 BMW 335i sport sedan holds the line against the weight gain that detracted from some of the automaker's recent vehicles. At $54,850 for the loaded car I tested, the 335i's price tag is awful hefty, though.

The 2012 3-series sedan is all new, despite styling that's evolutionary in the sense that living creatures evolve over millennia, with virtually no discernible difference from one generation to the next. Unless you're a BMW salesman, you may have a hard time recognizing the 2012 335i.

Under the skin, the differences are profound and for the good. The new car has more passenger and luggage room, a more powerful base engine and better fuel economy.

The 3-series is BMW's best-selling vehicle. It comes in a wide array of models, but only the sedan is new for 2012. A hybrid arrives this fall, and an optional all-wheel drive model.

Prices for the 2012 BMW 3-series sedan start at $34,900 for a 328i with a 240-horsepower turbocharged 2.0-liter four-cylinder engine and six-speed manual or eight-speed automatic transmission.

The 2.0-liter base engine is new. It replaces a normally aspirated 3.0-liter straight-six that used more fuel and produced less power. The new 328i is slightly heavier than the 2011 model.

The 335i uses a turbocharged version of the 3.0-liter I-6 that produces 300 horsepower and 300 pound-feet of torque. The 2012 335i is lighter and more fuel efficient than the old model. Prices start at $42,400 for a six-speed manual or eight-speed automatic.

NUTS & BOLTS

Rear-wheel drive five-passenger sport sedan
Price as tested: $54,850 (excluding destination charge)
Rating: Three out of four stars
Reasons to buy: Handling, performance, fuel economy
Shortcomings: Price, road and wind noise, evolutionary styling
More Details: 2012 BMW 3 series at a glance
Vehicle type: Rear-wheel drive five-passenger sport sedan
Power: 240-horsepower 2.0-liter turbocharged four-cylinder or 300-horsepower twin-turbo 3.0-liter straight-six
Transmission: Six-speed manual or eight-speed automatic
Price range: $34,900-$42,400 (excluding destination charges)

I tested a very well-equipped $54,850 335i. It had the manual transmission and options that included a navigation system, head-up display, Harman/Kardon sound, 19-inch alloy wheels and adaptive suspension.

The 335i competes with the Acura TL SH-AWD, Audi S4, Cadillac ATS, Infiniti G37, Lexus IS 350 and Mercedes-Benz C350.

The 335i sedan's base price compares well to all those cars except the ATS, for which prices have not been announced. The 3-series' cost rises with dismaying speed as you add options, though.

The 335i is a delight to drive. It practically leaps to life as the turbocharged straight-six produces 300 pound-feet of torque from just 1,200 r.p.m. The silky six-speed manual transmission is virtually effortless. The light clutch makes it easy to work the gears enthusiastically.

The suspension holds the 335i firmly planted during hard cornering and absorbs bumps well. The steering is quick and precise. It felt a bit light at 40 to 60 m.p.h., however.

Road and wind noise are loud enough to impede conversations.

Despite being 3.7 inches longer, 0.2 inch wider, 0.4 inch taller, and having more passenger and luggage space, the 2012 335i weighs a few pounds less than a comparably equipped '11 model.

The 335i I tested rates an excellent EPA combined city/highway fuel economy rating of 23 mpg. Only the C250 Sport can match that, but the Mercedes only comes with an automatic transmission, and a 335i with BMW's 8-speed automatic trounces it by 3 mpg.

The 3-series has an auto-stop feature that shuts the engine off when the vehicle sits idling. It worked poorly with the automatic transmission in a 528i sedan I tested recently.

It's a bit better with a manual, but only operates when you shift into neutral and release the clutch. That process masks some of the system's flaws.

It's also inconvenient enough that I doubt many drivers will use the feature much.

Stop-start can be responsible for 3 percent-4 percent of a vehicle's EPA combined rating. BMW's system needs work.

The larger interior increases head and leg room. Big map pockets offer good storage space, but the bin in the center console is small. You'll be hard put to find a good place for sunglasses, phone and music player.

A 6.5-inch color display and BMW's continually improving iDrive system make it reasonably easy to control the car's secondary systems.

The interior materials are appealing. A soft and attractive black padded plastic covers the doors and dash. The steering wheel, shifter and seats all had leather, and the trim made restrained use of brightwork. The surfaces of the doors and dash are cast in sweeping, flowing shapes.

The light, sleek 335i sedan's comfort, performance and fuel economy set a high standard that goes a long way toward justifying the car's high price. A quieter interior and better auto-stop would be welcome, though.

Teen passengers spell danger for novice drivers

WASHINGTON (AP)—A teenage driver's risk of dying in an accident increases dramatically when there are other teens in the car, and plummets when there's an adult looking on, according to a study by AAA's safety foundation.

Researchers have long known that the presence of other teens is distracting to novice drivers, but most previous studies on the issue are more than a decade old and don't reflect changes in state driving laws that began in the mid-1990s. Since then, every state has adopted a "graduated licensing" law that places some restrictions on teen drivers. The laws vary, but typically they restrict teens from driving with any passengers under age 21, or just one young passenger, and bar nighttime driving.

The study by the Automobile Association of America's Foundation for Traffic Safety, being released Tuesday, found what a lot of parents already know: Teens driving with their friends in the car continues to be far riskier than driving alone or with an adult. The study was based on an examination of government data on teen crashes from 2007 to 2010.

Compared to driving with no passengers, a 16- or 17-year-old driver's risk of death per mile driven increases 44 percent when carrying one passenger younger than 21 (and no older passengers), the study found. The risk is double when carrying two passengers younger than 21, and quadruples when carrying three or more passengers that age.

Conversely, the risk of a teen driver dying in an accident when a passenger aged 35 or older is in the vehicle decreases 62 percent, the study said.

Like cell phones, the presence of other teens can be extremely distracting to young drivers, said Jackie Gillan, president of Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety.

Between 2000 and 2010, the number of 16- and 17-year-old drivers involved in fatal crashes each year fell by more than half. Graduated licensing laws - as well as greater seat belt use, better safety equipment in cars, and anti-drunk-driving campaigns - have been credited for the decrease. But 40 percent of the 2,191 younger teen drivers killed during those years had at least one passenger under 21 - and no older passengers - in the vehicle, the study said. And preliminary data for the first six months of 2011 show a small uptick in teen driving deaths, another recent study found.

UNDER THE HOOD

The essentials for changing a car's transmission fluid

By BRAD BERGHOLDT
MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Question: I'm due for an automatic transmission fluid change for an '04 Accord V6 with 126,218 miles on it. The owner's manual recommends draining and filling the ATF Z1 four times, driving and moving the car through all gears between each drain and fill. I've contacted three mechanics, including two Honda mechanics who told me they only do one drain and fill because that's all that is necessary. One mechanic said you only need to drain and fill four times for the first change, so as to dilute out the incorrect fluid that was put in by the factory. Another said you only need to do one drain and fill if the fluid is warmed up, rather than cool. Which procedure is correct, and why?

Answer: Wow, this is like asking three doctors why your elbow hurts! Opening the drain plug of your automatic transmission allows only about 40 percent (3.1 quart) of the fluid to escape. The remaining fluid is trapped in the torque converter and a multitude of internal places and passages. This makes a great case for draining/refilling several times (and running the transmission through its paces between) in order to turn the tide on the old fluid. The more times one repeats the process the smaller the percentage of old fluid remains. Draining an engine of oil when warm makes a lot of sense, but I don't see how it makes a big difference with low viscosity automatic transmission fluid. Honda has come out with a new ATF DW-1 fluid that offers improved cold transmission performance and improved fuel economy, compared to the original ATF-Z which has been discontinued. The new Honda specified fluid can be mixed with old in any ratio and isn't too pricey at about $7.50 per quart.

■■■

Q: How can you tell when your battery terminals need cleaning? I've had or seen a few cars that had horribly dirty looking terminals but there seemed to be no problems caused by it. And then there was the time my car wouldn't start and the clean looking terminals turned out to be what caused it. With the computers in cars now it seems like it's best not to disconnect the cables to clean them unless you really need to.

A: This is a great question with an easy solution, if it's a top terminal battery. A corroded battery terminal can lead to starting problems, odd computer glitches, and even radio static. A simple voltage drop test will tell you the real story about terminal performance. You'll need a basic multimeter (Sears Craftsman #82139 is a favorite at about $30) and a helper.

With the meter set to volts DC, press/hold the red lead tip against the battery positive post and the black lead to the cable clamp (only a half inch or so apart). Watch closely as your helper cranks the starter—keep hands and leads clear of moving parts! A reading of .2 volts or less indicates an acceptably small amount of voltage drop across the connection during the most severe service the terminal connection will ever see. If the engine starts too quickly to see the reading clearly, press the data hold button (prior) and the meter will record a snapshot.

Next, check the negative terminal in the same way, this time black lead to post and red to clamp. This quick test unfortunately can't be performed on side terminal batteries as the cable end obscures access to the battery terminal. A reading above .2 volts indicates terminal cleaning is needed.

Brad Bergholdt is an automotive technology instructor at Evergreen Valley College in San Jose, Calif. Readers may send him email at under-the-hood@earthlink.net; he cannot make personal replies.

Life&Style

Heeeeere's Johnny—warts and all

By NEAL JUSTIN
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

It was devastating to learn that Santa Claus didn't exist and that babies didn't come from the same dude who peddled pickles, but finding out that the great Johnny Carson, the smoothest guy on my TV set, wasn't as debonair in his personal life?

Childhood is officially over.

It's always heartbreaking to discover that your heroes are fallible creatures, which may be reason enough to avoid watching "Johnny Carson: King of Late Night," an "American Masters" production airing Monday on PBS, 50 years after Carson took over NBC's "The Tonight Show" and 20 years after his retirement.

While this thorough, two-hour documentary is packed with praise—nearly 50 interviewees pay their respects—one theme might rattle die-hard fans: Johnny had mommy issues.

"For his entire life, he tried to get her approval and her love and she withheld it, no matter what he did," writer and co-director Peter Jones said in an interview earlier this year, referring to Carson's mother, Ruth.

In the movie's most devastating anecdote, we learn that a Time correspondent doing a cover story on Carson in 1965 watched the opening monologue with Johnny's mother in her living room. After it was done, she stood up and said, "That wasn't funny," and walked into the kitchen.

No wonder the late-night host got divorced three times.

"His whole life, his relationship with women, was really defined by that principal relationship with his mother," Jones said. "None of the marriages ever worked and it was one of his deepest regrets."

Jones, who has done documentaries on Bette Davis and Gloria Swanson, spent 15 years trying to get Carson's cooperation, sending him an annual letter until his death in 2005. In 2002, Carson actually picked up the phone and called.

"He said, 'Peter, it's Johnny Carson. I want to tell you, you write a damn fine letter, but I'm not going to participate in anything on my life because, you know what? I don't give a (expletive),'" Jones said.

With all due respect, I've got to disagree with Carson.

A life this influential demands examination, something his family finally acknowledged by granting Jones unprecedented access to Carson's archives.

A generation that didn't grow up on Carson should know more about the roots of Jay Leno's lengthy monologue, the way Bill Maher punctuates a joke, Jimmy Fallon's silly skits, David Letterman's banter with Paul Shaffer. All have Carson's fingerprints on them.

Younger people should understand that, before the late-night wars, Americans were united in worshipping one, and only one, talk-show personality.

The fact that so many top names agreed to interviews, including Leno, Angie Dickinson, Don Rickles and Conan O'Brien, is a testimony to Carson's greatness. Even the press-shy Letterman sits for a chat (although he doesn't say anything terribly revealing). Joan Rivers, the fill-in host who was banished from the show and Carson's life after she jumped to Fox to launch her own short-lived program, admits for perhaps the first time that she should have gotten her mentor's blessing before becoming his competitor.

Carson may be grimacing from his grave, but I can only hope he's also laughing right along with us as we look back at Aunt Blabby, Carnac the Magnificent and the smoothest cat in the history of late-night TV.

NBC/MCT
The Tonight Show starring Johnny Carson (1962 - 1992).

Fountains of Wayne's Adam Schlesinger lets the songwriting flow

By STEVE KNOPPER
NEWSDAY

NEW YORK—In addition to co-writing "Stacy's Mom," "Red Dragon Tattoo" and other classics for the ultimate songwriter's rock 'n' roll band—New Jersey's Fountains of Wayne—Adam Schlesinger is a member of supergroup Tinted Windows and author of movie songs for "That Thing You Do!" "Music & Lyrics" and many others.

"I like to stay busy," he says en route recently to a morning meeting at a Manhattan dim-sum place. "I don't like to think of it as a business strategy."

The power-pop band also includes Jody Porter, Chris Collingwood and Brian Young.

Q. You wrote "Stay In Our PJs" for the Nickelodeon band Big Time Rush and have predicted a new boy-band era. So... One Direction or The Wanted?

A. Well, my kids are really into that Wanted song ("Glad You Came"), so I'm going to have to go with that. It has one of those choruses—it's like a long string of things where the last word in the sentence is the first word in the next sentence. It's a really smart songwriting trick.

Q. Have you used that one?

A. No, but I'm going to now, definitely.

Q. In "A Road Song," you say in the lyrics you know road songs are cliches. So why write a new one?

A. A lot of times, it's fun to take a type of song that's been done a lot and put our own spin on it. ... I didn't even have an idea of what the song would be, just the first few lines and melody had a '70s singer-songwriter, and that led me to think of a road song, which is a very '70s singer-songwriter move. I just remember in the '70s, there were lots of songs about being on tour and how rough it was. I thought that was a kind of funny thing to be complaining about.

Q. Chris has been saying recently that he checked out for a few years, then re-emerged for last year's "Sky Full of Holes" album—and that caused some tension between you. What's your perspective?

A. Chris and I have known each other since we were 18, and obviously there's going to be some ups and downs in a relationship that long. I don't feel closer musically to anybody else in the world. The two of us agree on about 99 percent of stuff. We can really butt heads sometimes, and it gets pretty contentious. ... We ended up making a really great record. I'm happy we didn't really throw in the towel.

FIFTH YEAR DEATH ANNIVERSARY

Vinae Teofilia Sablan Deleon Guerrero

Lovingly known as "Nena"

We, the family humbly invite friends and family to join us in prayers as we commemorate the Fifth Death Anniversary of our Beloved daughter, sister, niece and grand-daughter.

Daily masses of intentions are being offered at 6:00 p.m. starting on May 12th through the 19th at San Vicente church. And, on the final day, May 20th, mass will be at 6:00 a.m. and breakfast will be served at the San Vicente Social Hall.

Your presence, thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase and Thank you.

Nadine, Jun-Ben, Chazrae and family.

In Loving Memory of Our Beloved

GREGORIO DELEON GUERRERO DEMAPAN

Also known as: TunGoro

Was called to join his Creator on Wednesday, May 9, 2012 at the age of 83

In his new life, he now joins his:

Wife: Micaela Sablan Demapan (†)
Father: Ramon Demapan (†)
Mother: Ana Duenas Deleon Guerrero Demapan (†)
Fathers-In-Law: Benigno Olopumar Sablan, Cornelio C. Tenorio (†)
Mother-In-Law: Consolacion Atalig Sablan (†)
Brothers: Francisco Borja Demapan, Pedro Borja Demapan (†)
Sisters: Rita Demapan Ogo, Dolores Demapan (†)
Sisters-In-Law: Ana Deleon Guerrero Demapan, Maria Mendiola Demapan, Carmen Manglona Sablan (†)
Brothers-In-Law: Cristin S. Delacruz, Benedicto G. Tenorio, Pepe Garcia, Vicente Atalig Sablan, Juan Atalig Sablan, Herman Atalig Sablan, Gregorio Sablan, Isidro Atalig Sablan, Joaquin Teregeyo, Vicente Ogo (†)
Children: Isias S. Demapan, Ramon S. Demapan (†)
Grandchildren: Juan B. Demapan, Patrick A. Demapan (†)

His memories will forever live in the hearts of his:

Wife: Maura Tenorio Demapan
Mother-In-Law: Fernanda G. Tenorio
Sisters: Eugenia D. Delacruz, Sr. Asuncion Dlg. Demapan

Children/In-Laws:
Miguel S. Demapan (Frances) & Family
Juan S. Demapan (Rit) & Family
Antonio S. Demapan (Acha) & Family
Ana Demapan Castro (Jess) & Family
Jose S. Demapan (Sue) & Family
Roman S. Demapan (Rose) & Family
David S. Demapan (Jovi) & Family
Thomas S. Demapan & Family
Maryann Demapan Calvo (Carlos) & Family
Bryan T. Demapan
Darren T. Demapan
Kelly T. Demapan

Brothers/Sisters-In-Law:
Manuel A. Sablan (Del) & Family
Ana S. Teregeyo & Family
Ana A. Sablan & Family
Agnes S. Sablan & Family
Angie C. Sablan & Family
Antonio G. Tenorio
Myrna T. Garcia & Family
Emma Infante (Boy) & Family
Lucita T. Torino (Redentor) & Family
Ruben G. Tenorio (Joshie) & Family
Marilou Bederio (Sonny) & Family
Annabel Anciro (Jerry) & Family

He is additionally survived by numerous aunties, uncles, nieces, nephews, grandchildren, great grandchildren, extended families, and friends.

Daily Mass of Intention is being celebrated each morning at 6:00 a.m., and nightly rosary is being prayed at 7:00 p.m. at the Mount Carmel Cathedral, Susupe.

On Thursday, May 17, 2012, his remains will be taken from CHC Morgue to Mount Carmel Cathedral at 7:30 a.m. Responso service will be at 8:00 a.m. followed by the Holy Rosary at 8:30 a.m. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m. followed by Internment Service at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

Please join us in prayers
UN DANGKULO NA SI YUUS MAASE
GINEN I FAMILIA

HOLLYWOOD THEATERS

Don't just go to the movies, GO HOLLYWOOD!

Located near Price Costco in San Jose Saipan MP • 234-9000

POWER 99 FM SAIPAN, CNMI

$6.00	Bargain Matinees - All Shows Before 6PM
$6.00	All Day Admission For Seniors
$4.75	All Day Admission For Kids (ages 3-11)
$6.00	Student Admission with Valid I.D.
$6.00	Military with Valid I.D.

TIMEWARP TUESDAY

$6.00 ALL SHOWS ALL DAY/NIGHT (EXCLUDING HOLIDAYS AND RESTRICTED FEATURES)

RESERVE TICKETS ONLINE AT www.gohollywood.com

dts DOLBY DIGITAL STADIUM SEATING WITH HIGH-BACK LOVESEATS

Friday, May 11th through Tuesday, May 15th, 2012

OPEN SEVEN DAYS A WEEK

NOW SHOWING

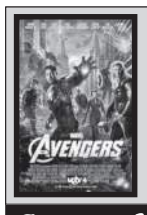
Dark Shadows

Friday		4:15	7:15	9:50
Saturday	1:15	4:15	7:15	9:50
Sunday	1:15	4:15	7:15	
Monday and Tuesday		4:15	7:15	

Johnny Depp, Helena Bonham Carter
Horror • Rated PG 13

Synopsis

Entombed for 200 years after betraying vengeful witch Angelique Bouchard (Eva Green), 18th Century vampire Barnabas Collins (Johnny Depp) returns to Collinwood Manor in 1972, only to find his estate in ruins and his family plagued by macabre secrets in Tim Burton's re-boot of the popular supernatural soap opera. It was the year 1752 when Barnabas Collins' parents attempted to elude a family curse by fleeing from England to America. 20 years later, wealthy Barnabas was the master of Collinwood Manor, and one of the most powerful figures in Collinsport, Maine.



Marvel's The Avengers

Friday		4:10	7:10	9:55
Saturday	1:10	4:10	7:10	9:55
Sunday	1:10	4:10	7:10	
Monday and Tuesday		4:10	7:10	

Robert Downey, Jr., Chris Evans, Samuel L. Jackson
Action • Rated PG 13

Synopsis

Marvel Studios delivers the ultimate comic-book production, tying such characters as Iron Man (Robert Downey Jr.), Captain America (Chris Evans), The Hulk (Mark Ruffalo), and Thor (Chris Hemsworth) together for a big-screen franchise team-up like no other. Show runner Joss Whedon (Buffy the Vampire Slayer, Firefly) adapts and helms the script by Zak Penn, with a supporting cast that includes Samuel L. Jackson and Jeremy Renner.

Pirates! Band of Misfits

Friday		4:05	7:05	9:45
Saturday	1:05	4:05	7:05	9:45
Sunday	1:05	4:05	7:05	
Monday and Tuesday		4:05	7:05	

Hugh Grant, Brendan Gleeson
Children's/family • Rated PG

Safe

Friday		4:30	7:30	9:30
Saturday	1:30	4:30	7:30	9:30
Sunday	1:30	4:30	7:30	
Monday and Tuesday		4:30	7:30	

Jason Statham, Catherine Chan
Crime • Rated R

The Lucky One

Friday		4:25	7:25	9:40
Saturday	1:25	4:25	7:25	9:40
Sunday	1:25	4:25	7:25	
Monday and Tuesday		4:25	7:25	

Zac Efron, Taylor Schilling
Drama • Rated PG 13

Three Stooges

Friday		4:20	7:20	9:35
Saturday	1:20	4:20	7:20	9:35
Sunday	1:20	4:20	7:20	
Monday and Tuesday		4:20	7:20	

Will Sasso, Sean Hayes, Chris Diamantopoulos
Comedy • Rated PG

The Hunger Games

Friday		4:00	7:00	10:00
Saturday	1:00	4:00	7:00	10:00
Sunday	1:00	4:00	7:00	
Monday and Tuesday		4:00	7:00	

Jennifer Lawrence, Josh Hutcherson
Science fiction • Rated PG 13

● NO PASSES ■ NO PASSES OR SUPER SAVERS

GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE • R-RATED FILMS REQUIRE PHOTO I.D.

www.gohollywood.com

AP

In this publicity image released by ABC, Marcia Cross, left, and Scott Bakula are shown with, from right, Eva Longoria, Felicity Huffman and Teri Hatcher in a scene from the series finale of "Desperate Housewives," that aired Sunday, May 13, 2012, on ABC.

'Housewives' says farewell with grace

By FRAZIER MOORE
AP TELEVISION WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—There was nothing desperate about this finale. ABC's "Desperate Housewives" concluded its rocky, racy and macabre eight-season run with a tidy, affectionate send-off.

For those who haven't yet made their farewell visit to Wisteria Place, be advised: Plot spoilers from Sunday's finale await.

Suffice it to say, everyone seems destined to live happily ever after. At least, with the exception of Karen McCluskey (Kathryn Joosten), the cranky but lovable senior who was battling cancer. But she dies peacefully at home, the way she wanted, with a favorite Johnny Mathis record serenading her.

By this point, she has saved the day for Bree Van de Kamp (Marcia Cross), who was on trial for murder—an accidental homicide that was actually committed by Carlos (Ricardo Antonio Chavira), the husband of Bree's fellow housewife, Gabrielle (Eva Longoria).

Bree was prepared to loyally take the fall for her friends, but, at the last moment, Karen steps in and confesses to the crime.

Besides her false confession, Karen voices on the stand a tender summary of life in the "Desperate Housewives" neighborhood: "It's not just a bunch of houses in the same place. It's a community—people who care about each other."

The charges are dropped against Bree, who overcomes her fear of commitment and settles down with her cute lawyer, Trip (Scott Bakula), after he assures her that her tarnished past doesn't bother him: "All those ugly details you're talking about, they just prove that you're human," he says lovingly.

Lynette (Felicity Huffman) and Tom (Doug Savant), whose marriage seemed on the rocks, reconcile passionately in the middle of Wisteria Lane in the romantic glow of streetlights.

Preparations are afoot for the gala marriage of Renee (Vanessa Williams) and Ben (Charles Mesure), with all the expected hysteria and confusion. For instance, en route to the ceremony in a stretch limo, Renee's expensive wedding gown is soaked by pregnant Julie seated beside her, whose water inconveniently breaks. But with Gabrielle as an accomplice, Renee steals a replacement gown from a bridal store.

Then Julie (Andrea Lauren Bowen), the daughter of Susan (Teri Hatcher), gives birth at the hospital as, in cross-cuts, the wedding reception takes place and Karen breathes her last. Life, nuptials, and death: a bittersweet confluence.

The ratings and heat that greeted "Desperate Housewives" eight years ago have faded during the series' run. The season finale for its first year drew more than 30 million viewers, while, this season, the series has averaged 8.5 million each week.

But Sunday's two-hour finale (whose second hour was written by series creator Marc Cherry) was a reminder of why "Desperate Housewives" struck such a chord with its arrival in fall 2004.

It burst on the scene as a lighthearted soufflé of blackmail, lust, adultery and sisterhood; as TV's go-to address for sexy suburban angst. It hooked America from its first-place premiere airing when, among many twists, its series-long narrator (neighbor Mary Alice Young, portrayed by Brenda Strong) gave a play-by-play of her own suicide.

Then, as now, at the heart of this throbbing universe are the four titular housewives: overwrought career woman and weary mom Lynette; sexy, spoiled spitfire Gabrielle; goodhearted bubble-head Susan; and wired-too-tight homemaker Bree.

All of them have gone through so much, yet managed to stay rooted, as hordes of other characters came and went through the years. (Accelerating things, the time frame skipped forward by five years midway through the series' 8-season run.)

But that's all over. All four women (we are told) will soon scatter, living out their lives elsewhere, but happily.

The first to exit: Susan, the only member of the foursome who leaves without a partner by her side.

"Do I have one last torrid romance in me? Maybe," she tells daughter Julie wistfully. "But I know if I am ever old and lonely, I can wrap myself up in all those memories (of life on Wisteria Lane), and I will be content."

She has sold her home to a young married couple. But the wife, named Jennifer, confides misgivings at moving to the suburbs.

"I'm a little worried it's going to be boring," she tells Susan.

"Oh, I wouldn't worry about that," replies Susan with a knowing smile.

And, indeed, new housewife Jennifer seems to be bringing her own secrets and woes to the block—at least, if the series' final shot of her stricken expression and a mysterious box are any indication.

What a relief as the show comes to a close! Just because viewers won't be privy to future happenings on Wisteria Lane doesn't mean there's any danger of things settling down.

Kevin Spacey debuts South African short film

JOHANNESBURG (AP)—U.S. actor and director Kevin Spacey said he sees opportunity for expanding film making in Africa, Asia and Europe.

Spacey spoke about his international outlook during a brief visit to South Africa Saturday for the premiere of a local short film he helped produce and in which he stars.

With backing from a whiskey company, Spacey ran a contest to find talent from the United States, Russia and South Africa.

Spacey

A script from each country was chosen, and Spacey starred in and helped produce the three films, including South African Alan Shelley's "A Spirit of a Denture," which was given a red-carpet premiere in Johannesburg.

The 26-year-old Cape Town writer-director's movie is about a workaholic dentist who gets a visit from a pirate.

Spacey recently starred in "Inseparable," by Chinese-American director Dayyan Eng. In the movie, which was filmed in China, Spacey plays an American expat who befriends a Chinese man played by Chinese-American actor Daniel Wu who is bogged down by work and marital problems.

"There is no doubt that as you start to look around the world, you start to look at the Asia-Pacific region, you start to look at what's happening here, you look at what's happening in European cinema, there's a lot going on," Spacey said in Johannesburg.

Spacey, who is artistic director at London's Old Vic Theatre, added: "I like the idea of going to as many places as possible and (having) as many experiences as you can."

'Avengers' add $103.2M in sprint to $1 billion

LOS ANGELES (AP)—"The Avengers" is taking a page out of Superman's comic book—flying faster than a speeding bullet to the billion-dollar mark at the box office.

The superhero blockbuster took in $103.2 million to lead for a second-straight weekend, raising its domestic total to $373.2 million, according to studio estimates Sunday.

With $95.4 million more overseas, "The Avengers" lifted its international receipts to $628.9 million and a worldwide haul of just over $1 billion, only 19 days after it began rolling out in some markets.

"You never think that it can happen this quickly," said Dave Hollis, head of distribution for Disney, whose Marvel Studios unit produced the ensemble film after a long buildup in its solo superhero outings. "You hope you can get to this day, and the fact that it is happening this early is a testament to a lot of work that went in on the Marvel side over the last six years to get us to a place where people wanted to see the Avengers assemble."

"The Avengers" easily fended off Johnny Depp and Tim Burton's vampire romp "Dark Shadows," which had a so-so domestic start of $28.8 million to finish a distant No. 2.

That's far below such past Depp-Burton collaborations as "Alice in Wonderland," which opened with $116.1 million, and "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory," which debuted with $56.2 million.

"Dark Shadows" added $36.7 million in 42 overseas markets for a worldwide total of $65.5 million.

AP

In this undated file image released by Disney, Chris Hemsworth portrays Thor, left, and and Chris Evans portrays Captain America in a scene from "The Avengers."

"The Avengers" was the first movie ever to pull in more than $100 million domestically in its second weekend, passing the previous best of $75.6 million for "Avatar." The film also topped $300 million domestically Saturday after just nine days in release, beating the previous record set by "The Dark Knight," which hit that mark in 10 days.

Already the year's biggest hit worldwide, "The Avengers" is on the verge of passing "The Hunger Games" at $386.9 million to become the top-grossing film domestically for 2012.

Revenue for "The Avengers" was off just 50 percent from the film's domestic debut of $207.4 million the previous weekend, a remarkable hold given how big it started.

A round-up of such Marvel idols as Iron Man (Robert Downey Jr.), the Hulk (Mark Ruffalo), Captain America (Chris Evans) and Thor (Chris Hemsworth), "The Avengers" has shot past the revenues that its solo superhero predecessors took in for their entire runs. The best of those domestically was "Iron Man" with $318.4 million.

"There has been a surprise around every corner with this picture in terms of how high is high and how big is big," Disney's Hollis said.

"Certainly, more is better, but it was a busy weekend, especially with `Avengers' doing $100 million in its second weekend," said Dan Fellman, head of distribution at Warner Bros. "The box office can only expand so much, and that was a hard one to anticipate. Those numbers are staggering."

Domestic receipts for the year are at $3.83 billion, 17.6 percent ahead of last year's with a huge summer lineup yet to come.

Hollywood.com analyst Paul Dergarabedian said he expects Hollywood to break the summer revenue record of $4.4 billion it set last year and top its all-time annual high of $10.6 billion from 2009.

"I think we will surpass that given the strength of just the first two weeks of the summer and the strength of the films on the way," Dergarabedian said. "Records are just made to be broken this summer and this year."

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Hollywood.com. Where available, latest international numbers are also included. Final domestic figures will be released Monday.

1. "**The Avengers**," $103.2 million ($95.4 million international).
2. "**Dark Shadows**," $28.8 million ($36.7 million international).
3. "**Think Like a Man**," $6.3 million.
4. "**The Hunger Games**," $4.4 million ($2.4 million international).
5. "**The Lucky One**," $4.1 million ($2.5 million international).
6. "**The Pirates! Band of Misfits**," $3.2 million ($2.2 million international).
7. "**The Five-Year Engagement**," $3.1 million ($1.7 million international).
8. "**The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel**," $2.7 million ($1.9 million international).
9. "**Chimpanzee**," $1.6 million.
10. "**Girl in Progress**," $1.4 million.

US taxpayers getting cut of 'Passion' prequel

SAN ANTONIO (AP)—The American taxpayer may be getting into the movie business.

In a real-life case of drugs and extortion that could itself make a pretty good screenplay, federal prosecutors have forced a Mexican drug trafficker to turn over his stake in a planned prequel to Mel Gibson's 2004 blockbuster "The Passion of the Christ."

If the movie gets made, the U.S. government will receive a cut of the profits.

Some of the big names behind the Hollywood project include megachurch pastor Joel Osteen, who had no idea about the script's unsavory backstory.

"When you get a script, you just don't think to say 'Hey, was this script ever tied to a Mexican cartel?'" said Donald Iloff, a spokesman for Osteen's Lakewood Church in Houston. The script was already being handled by a legitimate production company when Osteen got involved.

Jorge Vazquez Sanchez pleaded guilty this week in federal court to extortion and money laundering in a deal that required him to give up a 10 percent stake in future profits of "Mary, Mother of Christ," which is scheduled to begin production this year and includes Osteen as an executive producer.

The script was written by the same person behind "The Passion of the Christ," which became a worldwide smash and earned more than $611 million.

Aloe Entertainment, the Los Angeles-based production company that paid more than $900,000 for the script, said it knew nothing about Vazquez, who was sentenced to seven years in prison.

Had Vazquez kept his stake, "we don't know what would have happened," the company said in a statement. "We have assembled an amazing team to bring it to the big screen. Now the American taxpayers can be part of this incredible project."

The screenwriter, Benedict Fitzgerald, had to give control of the script to a company called Macri Inc. after it foreclosed on a loan to Fitzgerald, said Richard Rosenthal, attorney for Aloe.

Then Vazquez and one of his co-defendants extorted Macri's owner, a San Antonio businessman named Arturo Madrigal, to wrest the script away. At one point, the conspirators even kidnapped Madrigal's brother in Guadalajara, Mexico, according to court documents.

Vazquez, a Mexican citizen identified in court documents as a drug trafficker who laundered money, acquired the screenplay in 2008.

Aloe, known at the time as Proud Mary Entertainment, then paid one of Vazquez's co-defendants $925,000 for the script, believing it was held by a San Antonio real estate mogul.

Before the company issued a payment, Aloe executives hired an entertainment copyright attorney who spent more than three months researching the screenplay's origins. Federal prosecutors contacted them last year seeking documents for the transaction.

When prosecutors moved to seize Vazquez's assets, the stake he had retained in the film's profits was included. Vazquez's lawyer, Donald Flanary, said his client did not contest the forfeiture.

If the movie becomes a reality, it will probably be "the first time that a major motion picture was made in which 10 percent of the profits went to the American taxpayers," Rosenthal said. "It would be an incredibly unique story."

Jurors acquit rapper Lil Boosie of murder

BATON ROUGE, La. (AP)—Jurors have acquitted the rapper known as "Lil Boosie" in the 2009 slaying of a man gunned down in his home.

They deliberated for an hour before returning the verdict Friday for the 29-year-old rapper, whose real name is Torence Hatch.

Before the verdict was read, District Judge Mike Erwin warned those in the courtroom not to make any emotional outbursts. Still, many quietly sobbed after the verdict was announced. Hatch, who stood quietly, bowed his head and pumped his fist when he heard the decision from the 12-person jury.

Hatch already is serving an eight-year prison term on separate drug charges.

Prosecutors argued he hired Michael "Marlo Mike" Louding to kill 35-year-old Terry Boyd, who was shot to death through a window while he was inside his home.

Golfer who improves his lie must learn to tell the truth

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: One of my friends, "Max," cheats at golf. Otherwise he's witty, interesting and fun to be around. He moves his ball closer to the hole on the green and "improves" his lie when he thinks no one is looking. I have tried to overlook Max's transgressions, but others in our golf group talk and joke behind his back. How should I go about stopping the problem without stressing our friendship?

FLORIDA GOLFER

DEAR GOLFER: What you have described is considered a terrible breach of golf etiquette. What it shows about Max is a serious lack of ethics. Because you feel close to him, take him aside and tell him privately as a friend that it's time to knock off the cheating because the others are onto him, and he's making himself a laughingstock.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I have been part of a book club for almost 20 years. We began as a group of six teachers who wanted to share our friendship and love of reading. Over the years, members have come and gone, but five of the original group remains. We're now a group of nine.

Our dilemma is that many of the women don't bother to read the monthly selection but still attend the meetings. Granted, the meetings are very social. Everyone brings food to enjoy while we discuss books and anything else going on in our lives. However, the core group finds it annoying when some members don't even attempt to read. It happens month after month.

We have said on many occasions we expect everyone to read. Our discussions are livelier and more interesting when everyone shares her thoughts, but some don't make the effort or threaten to drop out of the book club.

We don't want anyone to drop out. We are all friends. Are we expecting too much because as teachers we regard it as a "homework assignment" not being completed? What can we do? I'd like your opinion so I can share it at the book club.

PENNSVILLE, N.J., READER

DEAR READER: If certain members of your book club are no longer doing the required reading and regard the gatherings as social affairs, why not make some of the meetings—say, every other month -- devoted solely to discussing the book you are reading, while the rest will be strictly social? There will be less disappointment for the readers, and you can still meet as friends without anyone being inconvenienced.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I have a good friend, "Renee," who is Canadian and a permanent resident of the United States. We don't always agree on things, but one thing really bugs me about her. She's always saying how "nice" Canadians are and how rude Americans are.

On a recent trip we took to Canada, she commented about a cashier who was nice to us by saying, "That cashier wouldn't have been so nice if we were in America." When I try to point out evidence to the contrary, Renee shrugs it off and calls it an exception to the rule.

How should I politely ask her to knock off bashing Americans?

LOVE IT OR LEAVE IT

DEAR LOVE IT OR LEAVE IT: Do it by "politely" pointing out to Renee that it is rude to make comments that make others uncomfortable, and if Canadians are as "nice" as she says they are—and that includes her—she'll quit putting down Americans because you find it offensive.

■■■

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

■■■

Good advice for everyone—teens to seniors—is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

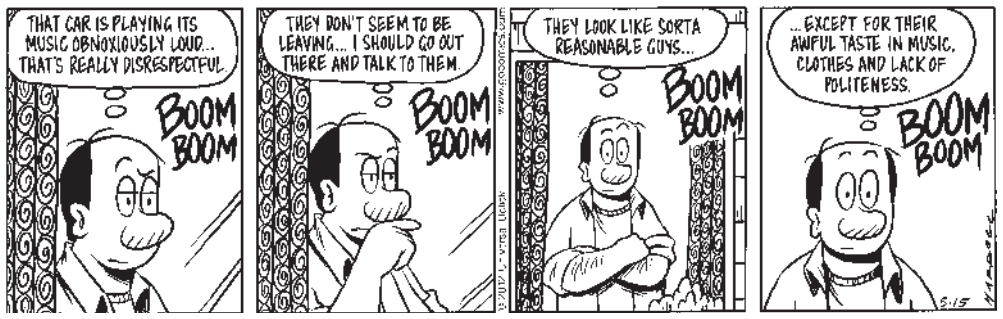
Outta my way, Twinky.
A PERSON CAN'T BE A DOORMAT UNLESS HE ALLOWS HIMSELF TO BE ONE! I REFUSE TO BUDGE!
SHOVE
ACK! OOF! UGH!
I'VE GOT TO STOP READING THOSE DUMB ADVICE COLUMNS.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


THAT CAR IS PLAYING ITS MUSIC OBNOXIOUSLY LOUD... THAT'S REALLY DISRESPECTFUL.
BOOM BOOM
THEY DON'T SEEM TO BE LEAVING... I SHOULD GO OUT THERE AND TALK TO THEM.
BOOM BOOM
THEY LOOK LIKE SORTA REASONABLE GUYS...
BOOM BOOM
...EXCEPT FOR THEIR AWFUL TASTE IN MUSIC, CLOTHES AND LACK OF POLITENESS.
BOOM BOOM

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

HOW EMBARRASSING! I WAS SITTING NEXT TO A NUN ON THE BUS WHEN I SPILLED MY COFFEE.
AND I SHOUTED A BAD WORD.
WHICH WORD?
YOU KNOW... THE WORST WORD OF THEM ALL.
VOLDEMORT?!

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Honeycomb compartment
5 In earlier times
8 Pleads
12 Neighborhood
13 Sister
14 Chills and fever
15 Troop group
17 Unusual
18 Line
19 Strapped for cash
21 Apartment of a sort
24 Soccer legend
25 Shades
26 Aromatic
30 Donkey
31 "I don't give —!"
32 Shad offspring
33 Dweller
35 Cookware
36 Wagers
37 No liability
38 Silas in "The Da Vinci Code," e.g.
41 Crafty
42 Burden
43 Uncommunicative
48 Jab
49 Anger
50 Vagrant
51 Goblet feature
52 Heathcliff, e.g.
53 Formerly

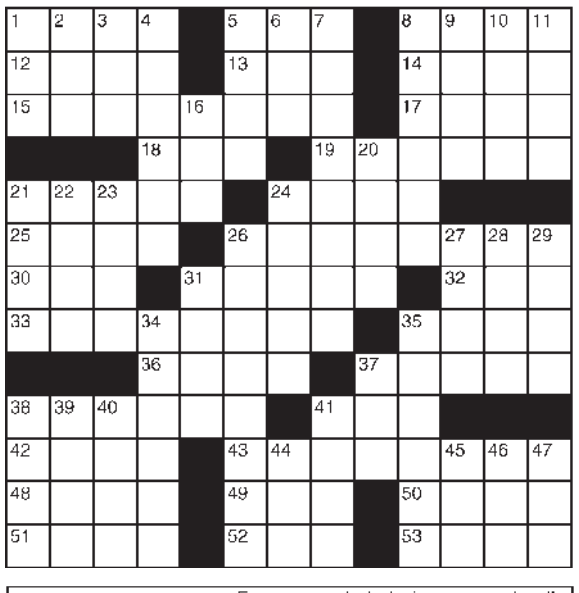
DOWN

1 Gridlock participant
2 Before
3 Lower limb
4 Scottish landowners
5 From the beginning
6 Pistol
7 Precisely
8 Keg
9 "Zounds!"
10 Mentor
11 Leak slowly
16 Cow's comment
20 Scads
21 Burn somewhat
22 English river
23 Loch — Monster
24 Lowly workers
26 Orator's skill
27 Cupid's alias
28 Staff member?
29 Criterion
31 Mideastern gulf
34 In the same place (Lat.)
35 Hitchcock classic
37 — Baba
38 Heidi's range
39 Swag
40 Use a kiln
41 Undo a dele
44 One long time period ...
45 ... and another
46 Peacock network
47 Sock part

Solution time: 21 mins.

C	A	P	■	H	A	L	O	S	■	S	U	M
A	G	O	■	E	L	E	C	T	■	A	P	E
S	A	T	E	L	L	I	T	E	■	T	O	T
■	■	■	L	P	S	■	E	R	M	I	N	E
B	A	S	K	E	T	■	T	E	E	S	■	■
A	B	A	■	D	A	M	■	S	A	F	F	S
R	E	T	D	■	R	E	S	■	D	I	R	E
S	L	U	R	S	■	G	A	L	■	E	N	E
■	■	R	U	F	D	■	I	F	A	D	F	R
B	A	D	G	E	R	■	T	A	D	■	■	■
R	N	A	■	S	A	T	I	N	D	O	L	L
A	N	Y	■	A	V	I	N	F	■	W	O	F
M	A	S	■	W	A	N	E	D	■	E	W	E

Yesterday's answer 5-15



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jamie-Lynn Sigler, 31; David Krumholtz, 34; George Brett, 59; Chazz Palminteri, 60.

Happy Birthday: Ease into whatever you do carefully. Get a strong foothold before you let anyone know what you are trying to accomplish. Preparation will be critical if you want to reach your goals. Help will follow once you are in a position to negotiate the best deal possible with the most auspicious outcome. Your numbers are 2, 12, 16, 24, 32, 36, 44.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Forget about personal problems. Get involved in a project that interests you and you will have less time to worry about the things you can't change right now. The limitations you've been dealing with mustn't hold back your professional progress. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Your expertise will help you get ahead. An encounter with someone from your past will have an impact on the way you do things. A short trip will result in valuable information as well as an honorable commitment. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Help a cause or someone in need. Follow a creative path and you will leave a much better image regarding what you have to offer and are willing to do. A geographical change will help your state of mind. ✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Spend time with friends. Anything you try to do with colleagues will be futile. An unusual package, letter or piece of information will open your mind to new possibilities. A new partnership is favored that offers greater promise and equality. ✪✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Step up and take your status and position seriously. Don't go for the glory when security should be your main focus. Comparing what you have to what someone else has will only lead to frustration and negativity. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Take control and follow your desired path. Your communication skills and expertise will easily draw the attention of someone as gifted as you to share in a venture that can make a difference to your personal finances. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Put more time and effort into home, family and keeping the peace. Do something that will please everyone and keep you out of trouble. You can make personal alterations, but don't go over budget. Consider reuniting with someone from your past. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Follow through with your ideas. An opportunity to get involved in a business partnership or something that will help advance your career is present. Networking should be treated as a social event. Make your home more conducive to creativity. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): It's how you present what you do that will count. Work from home if at all possible and you will achieve the results you are looking for. Don't let emotional matters get you down when you should embrace a romantic opportunity. ✪✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Communication will be required if you want to get to the bottom of a problem that is affecting your home life. You can cover a lot of ground if you are open about the way you feel. Money matters can be successfully managed. ✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Be careful what you say or how much you promise someone. It's important not to exaggerate or undersell what you are capable of doing or to what degree you want to be involved. Honesty will make the best impression. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Your restlessness must not lead to a foolish personal decision. A job opportunity can be expected if you go for an interview or send out your resume. Go the extra mile and perfect your skills to better suit the position you want. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are practical, caring and considerate. You are imaginative and competitive.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

		9		5		2		
	7		9		2		5	
6								4
	9		6		3		2	
8								7
	5		7		1		8	
1								9
	4		3		9		6	
		8		6		4		

Difficulty Level ★★ 5/15

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

3	8	1	4	5	7	2	9	6
4	9	7	6	3	2	1	8	5
2	5	6	9	8	1	4	7	3
5	2	4	8	9	3	6	1	7
7	3	9	1	6	5	8	2	4
6	1	8	7	2	4	3	5	9
9	4	3	2	7	8	5	6	1
1	6	2	5	4	9	7	3	8
8	7	5	3	1	6	9	4	2

Difficulty Level ★

©2010 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

VISITING BEVERLY HILLS **Solution: 6 letters**

A	H	L	L	E	O	P	U	S	L	O	O	P	S	R
I	S	E	U	A	C	A	A	W	E	I	V	R	M	U
N	U	U	A	X	V	N	S	T	H	R	A	I	O	O
R	L	C	I	R	E	A	A	I	H	T	C	V	O	M
O	O	E	A	T	T	C	L	G	S	W	S	A	R	A
F	S	R	N	N	E	T	I	O	E	A	A	©	B	L
I	A	I	E	I	O	S	X	V	N	L	I	Y	A	G
L	N	H	V	N	F	N	I	T	R	H	E	P	L	N
A	G	S	O	U	K	R	A	M	©	E	R	S	C	E
C	E	L	L	L	D	M	S	E	O	A	S	O	O	D
I	L	I	A	O	O	T	N	U	I	S	B	N	N	R
T	E	W	E	N	U	T	O	R	N	A	A	A	Y	A
Y	S	D	I	D	U	N	I	U	R	S	R	I	N	G
R	O	C	I	R	Y	E	G	S	R	G	E	P	C	A
R	A	O	Y	P	A	M	P	E	R	S	E	T	A	G

© 2012 Universal Uclick www.wonderword.com Join us on Facebook 5/15

Acres, Avalon, Balcony, Bars, Cabana, California, Canon, Century, Chic, City, Elegance, Fine, Garden, Gates, Glamour, Grand, Heart, Hilton, La Prairie, Los Angeles, Lounge, Love, Lush, Luxe, Mosaic, Oasis, Pamper, Pathway, Pianos, Pools, Privacy, Rodeo Drive, Rooms, Santa Monica, Service, Stars, Studio, Suites, Sunset, Tours, View, Walk, Wilshire

Yesterday's Answer: Coffee

The NEW Thesaurus 11 can be ordered by sending check or money order for $40.95 each plus $3.25 postage and handling (total $44.20) for each U.S. funds order to the Retail Price $41.99 (plus postage and handling) to Universal Uclick, 4520 Main Street, Kansas City, MO 64111 or call toll-free 1-800-872-5627. Online orders may be placed at www.uclick.com/products/thes11/ Add $5.00 per book for orders to Canada. All other orders must be placed by phone or mail.

CLASSIFIED ADS

WHATZIT Solution:
Face the facts

FOR SALE

2007 Nissan Quest minivan. Excellent condition. Color: Red, Mileage 44,700, Price: $11,500. If interested please call 287-7676

WANTED TO BUY

Need cash fast??? We want to buy your OnePass miles or Skymiles!!! Call 888-2205.

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Sandy Beach Homes 3BR, 2BTH beachfront Chalan Kanoa. Security cams, back-up power/water, washer/dryer in unit, AC, solar water heater. Income eligibility req. apply. $695/mo 235-7263. www.sandybeachhomes.net

---

Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. $600/mo. Call 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Sunset View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. $550. Call 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Lower Navy Hill Apts. Newly renovated bldg., 3BR & 2BTH. Rooms w/ A/C & fully furnished. Back-up generator. Free Wi-Fi, EPA Solar Water Heater. Laundry area. Nightime security. $450/mo. Call 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

DONALD W. BURCHER, Jr., Petitioner,
vs.
DOROTHY JOY M. BURCHER, Respondent.

FCD-DI CIVIL ACTION NO. 11-0443

ORDER FOR RESPONDENT DOROTHY JOY M. BURCHER TO APPEAR OR PLEAD

TO: DOROTHY JOY M. BURCHER

Pursuant to 7 CMC § 1301,YOU are hereby ORDERED to make a personal appearance before the Court or else to file any written response you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the Court, within twenty (20) days after publication of this Order in one of the two major daily newspapers in the Commonwealth. You are further directed to deliver or mail a copy of any responsive pleading that you file to Petitioner's attorney, Thomas E. Clifford, whose address is:

2nd Floor, Alexander Building,
San Jose
P.O. Box 506514
Saipan, MP 96950

as soon as practicable after filing. Any responsive pleading should be filed with Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. If you fail either to make a personal appearance or to file a written response in accordance with this Order, judgment by default may be taken against you for the relief requested in the Complaint.

So ORDERED this 23rd day of January, 2012.

/s/ The Honorable PERRY B. INOS
Associate Judge

Century Tours is looking for qualified U.S. workers to fill the following positions.

Sales Supervisor (1)

Qualifications: Bachelor's degree in Sales or Marketing with at least 2 years related experience in the tour and travel industry. Candidate must have strong oral and written communication skills in English and Chinese languages. Must be proficient in the use of MS Word, Excel and Power point. Must be willing to work on holidays, nights and weekends.

Accounting Clerk (1)

Qualifications: Associate's Degree in Finance or Accounting with at least 2 years work experience in cash management within a busy working environment. Must be proficient in the use of MS Excel, Word and Power Point. Must be able to work under time pressure, meet tight deadlines and can work flexible hours.

Operations Clerk (2)

Qualifications: High school graduate or GED with at least 1 year of work experience in the hotel and tour industry. Must be able to be prepared to handle multiple assignments at the same time. Must have strong oral and written communication skills in the English and Chinese language. Must be proficient in typing, math, grammar and computers. Successful candidate must be able to handle room bookings and or activity setups as it relates to tourist needs.

Application forms can be picked up at the Human Resource office of Century Tours located at the Saipan Grand Hotel in Beach Road, Susupe.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Judiciary Administrative Office
Guma' Hustisia · Iimwal Aweewe · House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165, Saipan MP 96950 · T: (670) 236-9715 · F: (670) 236-9702

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
DEPUTY CLERK 1
Office of the Clerk of Court
Superior Court, CNMI Judicial Branch
TINIAN and SAIPAN

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Superior Court is seeking **Deputy Clerk 1, Office of the Clerk of Court on the islands of TINIAN and SAIPAN.**

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES: This position is under the general supervision of the Presiding Judge and the direct supervision of the Clerk of Court or his/her designee. The employee performs work in accordance with established policies, practices, and court procedures. The following are required duties: receives, reviews, and records documents filed for hearings; provides data entry of pleadings onto the court's case management system; provides daily updates of pleadings and other caseload information for assigned judge through the court's automated processes, including but not limited to the document imaging and online filing system; inspects physical and electronic documents submitted to court, including looking for accuracy, proper form, and conformance with court order or court rules; assesses fines, receives and accounts for monies, issues receipts, prepares deposit slips and provides disbursements per court order or requests from customer service window; prepares and maintains physical and electronic file folders for court cases, including tracking of all pleadings associated with individual cases files; serves as a courtroom clerk when court hearings are in session, including but not limited to swearing in of witnesses, logging of all admitted exhibits, tracking all phases of a hearing on an index sheet for the recording counter, operating the electronic recording equipment, and providing continuous monitoring of the recording equipment to ensure the integrity of the record; and, performs other related duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS: A high school degree or equivalent plus a minimum of three (3) years related work experience. There is a strong preference for those with work experience in the legal field. Candidates must possess a valid CNMI driver's license, current police and traffic clearances and be able to demonstrate eligibility to work in the CNMI.

COMPENSATION AND TENURE: These are ungraded positions appointed and serve at the pleasure of the Presiding Judge. Starting salary will be $20,485 per annum, commensurate with experience.

Application forms may be obtained at the OPM offices in the CNMI, at the Supreme Court office at the Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice in Susupe, or at the Superior Court offices on Tinian and Rota. Completed applications, resumes, proof of high school graduation, along with copies of police clearance and proof of eligibility to work in the CNMI may be submitted at: the Supreme Court office at the House of Justice in Susupe, Saipan, the Superior Court offices on Rota and Tinian or addressed to Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja, P.O. Box 502165, Saipan, MP, 96950. This job announcement will remain open until filled. For additional information about the position call (670) 236-9716. This job announcement can be seen and a printable copy of the application downloaded at http://www.justice.gov.mp.

THE CNMI JUDICIARY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.

William M. Fitzgerald, Esq.
LAW OFFICES OF WILLIAM M. FITZGERALD
2nd Fl. Macaranas Bldg., Garapan Beach Road
P.O. Box 500909 Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone: (670) 234-7241
Fax: (670) 234-7530

Mark. B. Hanson, Esq.
2nd Fl. Macaranas Bldg., Garapan Beach Road
PMB 738, Box 10,000 Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone: (670) 233-8600
Fax: (670) 233-5262

Attorney for Petitioner Ramon Tudela Matsunaga

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN RE THE ESTATE OF ELIZABETH BLANCO MATSUNAGA, Deceased.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 12-0116

NOTICE OF HEARING

Date: June 12, 2012
Time: 1:30 p.m.
Judge: Robert C. Naraja

The petition of Ramon Tudela Matsunaga, seeking to be appointed as Administrator of the Estate of Elizabeth Blanco Matsunaga ("deceased"), has been set for hearing before the Commonwealth Superior Court, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, on June 12, 2012, at 1:30 p.m. Any person who has any objection to this petition may file his or her objection with the Commonwealth Superior Court at any time before the hearing, or may appear at the time set for hearing to present such objection or interest in the above-captioned matter.

DATED this 11th day of May, 2012:

BERNADITA A. SABLAN
Clerk of Court
/s/By: Deputy Clerk

Mu Rong Su
P.O. Box 505688
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No.: 287-2330

PRO SE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME OF: WANDA SU PENG A Minor Child, by MU RONG SU Petitioner

FCD-CN CIVIL ACTION NO. 12 - 0163

NOTICE OF HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on May 24, 2012, at 9:30 a.m. in Courtroom 217 before Honorable Associate Judge Perry B. Inos.

Bernadita A. Sablan
Clerk of Court
/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

CITY TRUST BANK, Plaintiff, -v- **AMALIA DIAZ TEREGEYO, aka DEBRA AMALIA DIAZ TEREGEYO; VICENTE TILIPAO TEREGEYO; and JOSE DLG. DIAZ,** Defendants.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 11-0101

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on April 12, 2012, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Lot No. 041 E 18 (formerly part of Lot 041 E 06, which was part of original lot 041 E 01), situated in Talafofo, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 1,050 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 041 E 03, the original of which was recorded 14 February 1995, as Document No. 95-356, at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, May 25, 2012, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 17th day of April, 2012:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$27
• 5-Liner	$24	$39
• 3-Liner with picture	$24	$42
• 5-Liner with picture	$36	$57

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
- All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

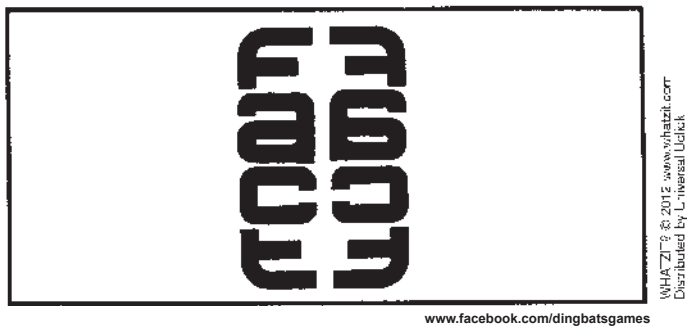
Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



WHATZIT? © 2012 www.whatzit.com
Distributed by Universal Uclick

www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

Find today's solution in classified section

MVP James gets 32, Heat top Pacers in Game 1

MIAMI (AP)—LeBron James was promised some rest. It never came.

The MVP didn't care, not after he and the Miami Heat struck the first blow against the Indiana Pacers.

James accepted his third MVP trophy from Commissioner David Stern before the game, then scored 26 of his game-high 32 points while playing every second of the second half—adding a season-high 15 rebounds as well—as the Heat survived some rough stretches to beat the Pacers 95-86 on Sunday in Game 1 of their Eastern Conference semifinal series.

"I just looked at him straight in the eyes and said, 'You can flat-out not get tired, period,'" Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said. "And he made MVP plays on both ends of the court."

Dwyane Wade scored 29 points for the Heat, who won the game but lost Chris Bosh for the second half and possibly longer. Bosh scored 13 points before leaving late in the first half with a lower abdominal strain, with the team saying he was being scheduled for an MRI exam to determine the severity.

"Hopefully (Monday) we get good news," Wade said. "We all just want to make sure Chris is healthy. So that's all we know right now. Our brother is going to go (Monday) to see if he can get back out there and play with us. If not, then we've got to have someone step up very big. You can't fill Chris Bosh's shoes, but you can have a few guys step up. So we'll see."

David West and Roy Hibbert each scored 17 points and combined for 23 rebounds for the Pacers, who got 10 points each from Darren Collison and George Hill. Indiana controlled long stretches of the first half and didn't trail by more than two points at any time until the fourth quarter, when it was outscored 25-16.

Indiana shot 50 percent in the first half, 30 percent in the second.

"We started to get defensive stops," James said. "We started getting things rolling."

Game 2 is Tuesday in Miami.

"We're not just here to play. We're here to win," Hibbert said. "We need to win Game 2 and come back strong."

Playing one star down, James and Wade raised their games accordingly after halftime. They combined for 42 points in the third and fourth quarters, four more than the entire Indiana roster. The Pacers scored 16 in the fourth, and James had that many alone.

"We definitely let this one get away," Indiana's Paul George said. "It seemed like we weren't supposed to win this one. Everybody in this room knew we had this game."

Everything was undecided until the final moments. Hill made a 3-pointer with 4:51 left, getting Indiana within 86-85. But the Pacers missed their final nine shots of the game, James had a dunk in transition to make it 90-85 with 4:10 left, and his jumper with 31.8 seconds remaining wrapped up the Heat win.

"It's a battle and we know, regardless of being at home, being away, who we're playing, what round, it's tough to win in the playoffs and you have to fight for every single possession," Spoelstra said. "And that's what it was."

From his seat a few rows above the court, it was like Stern knew what was coming long before it happened.

Stern was on hand to present James with his MVP trophy in a pregame ceremony. Later, in a televised in-game interview, Stern told ABC that James is just "warming up" with three MVPs, a total that only seven other players have reached.

"He's a great player," Stern said. "He is so strong and so athletic and so determined when he decides to take over a game, he's extraordinary to watch."

Before Sunday, the last time someone had as many as 32 points, 15 rebounds, five assists and two steals in a playoff game was Vince Carter in May 2006, according to STATS LLC. Plus, James played a big role in something that didn't show up on his personal stat line—Danny Granger shot 1 for 10 for Indiana, scoring only seven points.

"I don't know if he's going to have a huge offensive series," Indiana coach Frank Vogel said. "When you have to guard the MVP for 38 minutes, it takes a lot out of your offensive game."

Wade shot only 8 for 23 from the field, and the Heat missed all six of their attempts from 3-point range—a first in team playoff history. But the Heat held a 45-38 rebounding edge, and allowed Indiana to make only 11 of 37 shots after halftime.

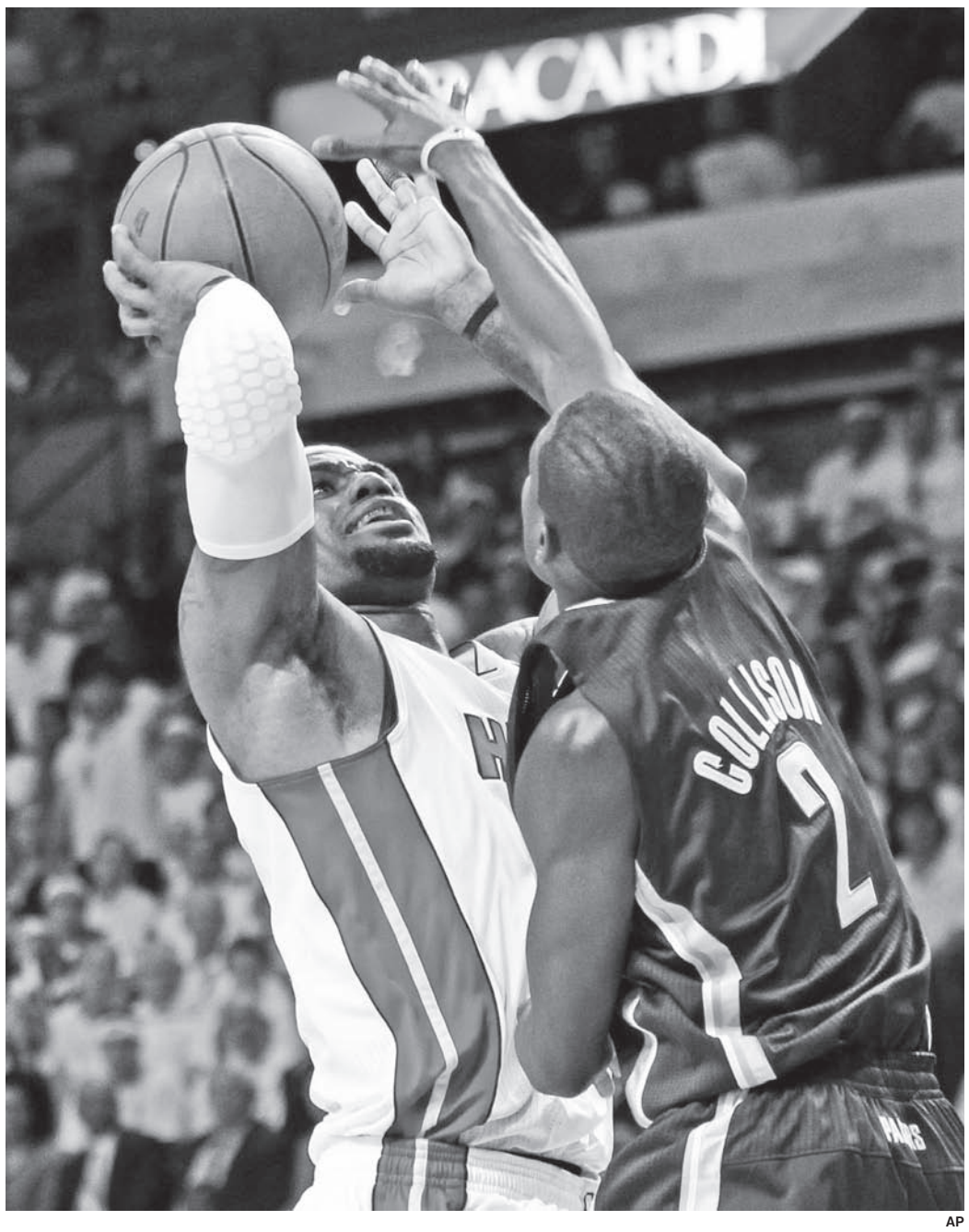
"Definitely not our best game," Vogel said. "We didn't shoot it very well. ... It came down to execution in the fourth quarter and you've got to give credit to Miami's defense."

In the pregame MVP ceremony, James told fans how "electricity" was going to be important throughout the playoffs.

One team came out electrified—and it wasn't Miami.

The Pacers trailed for only 56 seconds in the first half, never down by more than a basket. Indiana opened the game with an 11-4 run, held Miami to 37 percent shooting in the first two quarters, and rode the strength of a 19-6 edge in bench scoring to take a 48-42 lead going into halftime—surviving some foul trouble as well.

Of the 10 players Vogel used in the first half, seven had at least two fouls, and Hill had three.



AP

Miami Heat forward LeBron James shoots against Indiana Pacers guard Darren Collison (2) during the second half of Game 1 in an NBA basketball Eastern Conference semifinal playoff series, Sunday, April 13, 2012, in Miami.

But by then, Miami had a bigger problem to address, that being Bosh's injury. He got hurt with 1:06 left in the half on a dunk while getting fouled by Hibbert. Bosh remained down for a few moments, then got up slowly and made his free throw.

While going back down to the defensive end, Bosh started limping and grabbing at his midsection. He eventually fell to his knees in pain, and was replaced by Ronny Turiaf with 43.6 seconds left. Bosh was grimacing as he headed to the Heat locker room for evaluation, as his wife covered an anguished look on her face while watching from courtside.

"It's unfortunate Chris went down," Wade said. "But we told him, 'Be healthy. We got 'em."

Clippers 82, Grizzlies 72

In Memphis, Tenn., the Los Angeles Clippers refused to let a third chance to knock the Memphis Grizzlies out of the playoffs slip away.

Kenyon Martin scored seven of his 11 points in the fourth quarter, and the Clippers advanced to the Western Conference semifinals with a win over the Memphis Grizzlies in Game 7.

"That's why it's seven games," Martin said. "If you don't do it before, you get another chance. So they did what they had to do, they came and stole home court back on our floor. ... We had a chance to close it out. We knew we let it go, an opportunity get away."

The Clippers blew an eight-point lead in the fourth quarter Friday night. So Martin huddled the Clippers together at the start of the fourth quarter Sunday, and the veteran led the bench in outscoring the Grizzlies 25-16. Chris Paul had the only bucket by a starter in the final 12 minutes, and the Clippers' bench outscored the Memphis reserves 41-11 overall.

"Our bench was our MVP," Clippers guard Randy Foye said. "They realized what they had to do. We had a lot of guys hurt, so we just continued to grind."

Now, the Clippers have their third postseason series win in 41 years and their second since relocating to Los Angeles. They last beat Denver in 2006. The Clippers also avoided becoming the ninth NBA team to blow a 3-1 lead in a best-of-seven series in moving on to play the top-seeded Spurs starting Tuesday night in San Antonio.

"I want the guys to enjoy this, and then we'll regroup tomorrow and focus in on that," Clippers coach Vinny Del Negro said. "But obviously another big challenge for us."

Paul scored 19 points despite playing with a strained right hip flexor. Nick Young had nine of his 13 off the bench in the fourth as the Clippers finished off the series with their biggest margin of victory. Paul was so confident of victory he bought plane tickets for his wife and son to San Antonio on Saturday.

"I felt like we should have won earlier," Paul said. "But it doesn't matter. As long as you win, I think it is a step in the right direction for our franchise.

Rudy Gay and Marc Gasol each had 19 for Memphis, which lost a Game 7 at Oklahoma City a year ago in the second round of the playoffs. Zach Randolph had a game-high 12 rebounds.

"Unfortunately, no one on the bench stepped up and helped us," Memphis coach Lionel Hollins said.

The Clippers, who trailed 56-55 after three quarters, took control by opening the fourth with an 11-2 run started by a jumper by Martin. He tipped in a shot for a 66-58 lead with 8:41 left. Mo Williams matched the Clippers' biggest lead to that point at 10 with a 3-pointer pushing it to 71-61 with 7:04 left in a 16-5 spurt to open the quarter.

"They hit shots in a hurry," Gay said of the Clippers. "They made plays off our turnovers, and they just converted, something we weren't doing at that time."

Los Angeles finished off the win by hitting 9 of 10 free throws in the final 3:26. The Clippers also managed to outrebound the Grizzlies 46-44 for only the second time this series.

Memphis got away from the inside-out approach that won the last two games. The Grizzlies outscored the Clippers 36-24, but Randolph said they took far too many jumpers instead of feeding the ball to Gasol and himself.

"You have to take your hats off to them because they played good," Randolph said of the Clippers. Chris had a good game, and their bench played terrific."

The home-court advantage that didn't help the Grizzlies when they blew a 27-point lead in Game 1 didn't help again Sunday as they went cold from the floor. Gasol's one-handed dunk with 3:09 left was Memphis' last field goal down the stretch as the Grizzlies hit only 4 of 18 in the fourth quarter and finished the game missing all 13 3-pointers.

This series has been physical and grinding from the opening tip, and neither team backed down in a winner-take-all game.

The Clippers and Grizzlies scrapped and fought for every ball with each possession feeling like a knockdown, drag-out fight. Memphis should have had an advantage against the hobbled Clippers tipping off when they usually eat breakfast on the West Coast. Blake Griffin scored only eight points and looked tentative most of the game with a sprained left knee.

Del Negro said Griffin's knee tightened up on him as the game went on, and Griffin played only 1:39 of the fourth quarter. Not that it mattered the way the Clippers' bench came through.

The Grizzlies even brought out wrestler Jerry Lawler to help stoke up the sold-out crowd, but both teams showed the fatigue of a quick turnaround from Game 6 on Friday night in Los Angeles. The Clippers missed nine of their first 10 shots, while the Grizzlies missed seven of nine.

"It was Game 7 pressure and jitters," Hollins said. "We wanted to do well. We just wanted to let it rip. You walk up here and have two strikes on you in the ninth inning and you have to let it rip. And we didn't."

The Clippers shook off the exhaustion thanks to their bench.

The Grizzlies managed to pull within 39-38 at halftime even though they kept struggling to find the basket. Mike Conley missed his first seven shots with his drought stretching to the free throw line where he missed his first attempt. Conley didn't hit his first bucket until a jumper in the early seconds of the third quarter. Conley finished with seven points on 2 of 13 shooting.

Matt Kuchar comes up clutch at Sawgrass

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Fla. (AP)—Matt Kuchar looked beyond the edge of the 16th green at a scene packed with enough stress it could wipe away even his smile.

Across the water was an island green that was awaiting him Sunday in The Players Championship. The guy dressed all in orange and pumping his first was Rickie Fowler after making a 20-foot birdie putt on the par-3 17th to cut Kuchar's lead to two shots.

Kuchar stepped over his 15-footer and answered with a birdie just as big.

"Yeah, absolutely I saw the putt," Kuchar said. "Watched the thing disappear and he gave a big fist pump. I knew it got him to within two shots and he could birdie 18 to bring it within one. That could have changed the whole scenario of how I would have approached and played 18. So I was really excited to drop that birdie on 16. That was big."

Everything was big for Kuchar on the TPC Sawgrass - most of all, that smile.

After a three-putt bogey he could afford on the 17th, and a tap-in par on the final hole with his family watching, Kuchar closed with a 2-under 70 for a two-shot victory, his fourth career win and by far the biggest in so many ways.

It was his first win in 38 starts on the PGA Tour, dating to The Barclays in 2010. He won $1.71 million, the richest prize in golf, and moved to No. 3 in the Ryder Cup standings and a career-high No. 5 in the world ranking. His parents moved to Ponte Vedra Beach, so he stayed with them all week and delivered the perfect gift on Mother's Day to the woman who taught him to have fun while playing golf.

Even at scary Sawgrass, that was never a problem.

Not so for Kevin Na.

Already struggling with a pre-shot routine of practice swings, waggles and a few intentional whiffs so he could start over, Na heard it from the fans who heckled him with chants of "Pull the trigger!" and "Hit it!" He lost the lead for good with four bogeys in a five-hole stretch to finish the front nine, and when he hit his tee shot in the water on the par-3 13th, fans serenaded him with, "Na-na-na-na ... good-bye."

He closed with a 76, keeping a peculiar record intact—since The Players moved from March to May in 2007, the 54-hole leader has not shot better than 74 in the final round, with an average score of 76.3.

"I backed off and they're booing me," Na said. "I said, 'Look, guys, I backed off because of you guys.' ... But it is what it is. I also felt that a lot of people were turning towards me and pulling for me, which I really appreciate."

AP

Matt Kuchar holds up the trophy after winning the Players Championship golf tournament, Sunday, May 13, 2012, at TPC Sawgrass in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla.

Fowler missed an 8-foot birdie putt on the last hole—the difference of $399,000—and shot 70 to settle for a four-way tie for second. He was joined by Ben Curtis, who holed a 10-foot birdie on the last hole for a 68; Zach Johnson, who shot 68; and Martin Laird, who made bogey on the 18th for a 67.

Laird made the strongest run on a cloudy, breezy afternoon, tying for the lead with his third straight birdie on No. 12. Laird lost his momentum with a poor tee shot on the 14th that led to bogey, and with a bogey on the final hole, he needed big mistakes from Kuchar that never came.

Luke Donald finished alone in sixth after a 66, not quite enough to replace Rory McIlroy at No. 1 in the world.

Tiger Woods shot 40 on his front nine and rallied for a 73, at least finishing The Players Championship under par. That was the smallest of consolations. Far more alarming was that he tied for 40th, the first time in his career that he has finished no better than 40th in three straight tournaments. The streak began after a five-shot win at Bay Hill for his first PGA Tour title in 30 months.

"Just keep working. Keep working," Woods said when asked what he could take out of the week.

Kuchar opened with a tee shot into the woods and a bogey, though that was his only significant mistake until he could afford one with the three-putt at the 17th. The key shots turned out to be pars in the middle of the back nine.

With a one-shot lead and on the upper shelf of the green on the 13th, he two-putted from 60 feet to stay in the lead. His next tee shot went into the bunker, just over the water, on the 14th. He blasted that out from 181 yards, just over the bunker and safely onto the green to secure another par.

Votto's slam, 3 HRs rally Reds past Nationals

CINCINNATI (AP)—Joey Votto hit a grand slam in the ninth inning for his third home run of the game, rallying the Cincinnati Reds to a rain-delayed 9-6 victory over the Washington Nationals on Sunday.

Votto hit solo homers in his first two at-bats and finished a big day with his second career slam with two outs in the ninth.

Washington came into the game with only 15 homers allowed all season, fewest in the majors. Votto broke out of his power drought and helped the Reds avoid a sweep with three perfect swings.

Marlins 8, Mets 4

In Miami, Giancarlo Stanton hit a two-out grand slam to cap a ninth-inning rally by the Miami Marlins, who beat an angry Frank Francisco and the New York Mets.

The walk-off victory was the second in the three-game series for the Marlins, who have won 10 of their past 12 games.

It was the first time in 14 years that there were two walk-off slams on one day, according to STATS LLC. Mo Vaughn connected for Boston and Steve Finley for San Diego on April 10, 1998.

Phillies 3, Padres 2

In Philadelphia, Cole Hamels was stellar on the mound in his return from a five-game suspension, allowing one run in seven innings to help Philadelphia beat San Diego.

Hamels (5-1) was suspended by Major League Baseball after the left-hander intentionally hit Washington rookie Bryce Harper with a pitch.

It was Hamel's fifth victory in his last six starts—all Philadelphia wins. The San Diego native allowed five hits while striking out five.

Braves 7, Cardinals 4

In St. Louis, Jason Heyward ended a 10-pitch at-bat with a three-run double in the third inning as Atlanta beat St. Louis to complete a three-game sweep and hand rookie Lance Lynn his first loss.

Tommy Hanson (4-3) allowed one run in five innings with nine strikeouts and Martin Prado, Freddie Freeman and Dan Uggla each had an RBI in a three-run seventh. The Braves had lost seven in a row in St. Louis before Friday and swept the Cardinals for the first time since Sept. 11-13, 2009, also in St. Louis.

Dodgers 11, Rockies 5

In Los Angeles, Bobby Abreu hit a three-run double and A.J. Ellis added a three-run homer during a sixth-inning rally that carried Ted Lilly and Los Angeles past Colorado.

All-Star center fielder Matt Kemp, who leads the Dodgers with 12 homers and a .359 batting average, left the game because of an irritated left hamstring after grounding out in the third inning. He has played in 399 consecutive games, the longest current streak in the majors, but that streak is in serious jeopardy. He has an MRI scheduled for Monday.

Giants 7, Diamondbacks 3

In Phoenix, Melky Cabrera singled four times to extend his hitting streak to 11 games and Gregor Blanco drove in three runs with a pair of hits as San Francisco beat Arizona to take two of three from the Diamondbacks.

Brett Pill hit a two-run homer and Barry Zito (2-1) earned his first win since his opening start.

Cubs 8, Brewers 2

In Milwaukee, Ian Stewart hit a solo homer and scored the go-ahead run on an error, helping Chicago beat Milwaukee to avoid a three-game sweep by their division rivals.

It was the fourth homer of the season for Stewart, hitless in his previous four games. Reed Johnson added a pinch-hit home run in the sixth for the Cubs.

Pirates 3, Astros 2, 12 innings

In Pittsburgh, Josh Harrison's 12th-inning single drove in Clint Barmes as Pittsburgh came back to beat Houston on a rainy afternoon.

Harrison was 0 for 3 before lining the first pitch he saw from Fernando Rodriguez (1-4) into left. Barmes had just hit a two-out double and scored from second.

The Pirates prevented the Astros from winning a road series for the first time in 11 months.

Rays 9, Orioles 8

In Baltimore, Elliot Johnson and Ben Zobrist homered, and Carlos Pena ended an extended slump with two doubles and two RBIs as Tampa Bay held on to beat Baltimore.

James Shields earned his sixth win as the Rays snapped a three-game skid with their second win in eight games. Tampa Bay entered the series tied atop the AL East with Baltimore.

Yankees 6, Mariners 2

In New York, Andy Pettitte made his much-anticipated return to the Yankees on Sunday, getting lavished with adoration while pitching into the seventh inning despite giving up a pair of two-run homers in New York's loss to the Seattle Mariners.

Nearly lost amid the excitement over Pettitte's first major league appearance since retiring after the 2010 season was party crasher Kevin Millwood's performance for Seattle—helped by three double plays. The 37-year-old Millwood (1-4) gave up three hits in seven innings and got his 2,000th career strikeout as Seattle avoided a three-game sweep.

Tigers 3, Athletics 1

In Oakland, California, Justin Verlander struck out eight in seven innings to win his fourth straight decision as Detroit beat ailing Oakland to salvage a series split.

Miguel Cabrera hit a pair of RBI singles and Austin Jackson drew a bases-loaded walk in the sixth to put Detroit ahead, helping Verlander (4-1) win his 13th straight road decision.

Rangers 13, Angels 6

In Arlington, Texas, Nelson Cruz hit his third career grand slam and Josh Hamilton drove in three runs as Texas beat the Los Angeles to hand Jered Weaver his first loss.

The slam by Cruz capped a five-run third for the Rangers. Hamilton chased Weaver an inning later with a two-run double that made it 8-2.

Weaver (5-1), in his second start since throwing a no-hitter, gave up 10 hits and eight runs in only 3 1/3 innings, his shortest outing since 2009.

Red Sox 12, Indians 1

In Boston, Jarrod Saltalamacchia homered during a six-run seventh inning and drove in five runs to lead Boston past Cleveland.

Rookie Will Middlebrooks hit his fourth homer for the Red Sox, who have rebounded from a 1-8 skid with three straight wins.

Royals 9, White Sox 1

In Chicago, Jeff Francoeur hit his first homer of the season and pinch-hitter Johnny Giavotella had a two-run double to lead Kansas City over Chicago.

Alcides Escobar went 3 for 3 with two walks for Kansas City, which broke it open with six runs in the ninth inning. Francoeur also had an RBI single and made a nice play in right field.

Twins 4, Blue Jays 3

In Minneapolis, Scott Diamond pitched seven shutout innings and Brian Dozier hit his first career homer as Minnesota Twins held on to beat Toronto.

Ryan Doumit and Jamey Carroll added two hits apiece for the Twins, and Matt Capps pitched a scoreless ninth for his seventh save in as many chances.

KOREANS

From Page 28

is composed of Saipan-based Koreans Kim Jung Suk, Park Sung Ae, Kim Sung Taek, and Hwang Mi Ok.

Tinian gave some semblance of fight against the powerhouse Korea A team, losing 1-3 as Su Yong Dong got the better of Choi.

Su's teammates include Lian Wei Bin, Charlie Cheng, and Robin Lu.

Korea A then completed the perfect 5-0 record with a walkover win over Korea B.

Finishing second to Korea A was Saipan A with a 4-1 record, followed by Tinian (3-2), and Guam, Saipan B, and Korea B with identical 1-4 cards.

Guam finished fourth because of its 6-12 individual matches won-lost with Saipan B (4-13) and Korea B (3-13) bringing the rear.

In the doubles competition, Korea A's Cheon teamed up with Saipan B's Park Tae Won to win the division.

Cheol and Park beat Saipan's Kim Ki Jo and Korea B's Hwang Mi Ok in the first round then took out Saipan A's Budhi Gurung and Jean Shi in the second.

In the semifinals, Cheon and Park got the better of Tinian's Charlie Cheng and Liang Wei Bin.

In the finals, Cheon and Park took the championship by dispatching Saipan B's Park Tae Won and Korea A's Jeong Mi Jeong.

While the organizing MATTA wasn't able to conduct a singles competition, the club still awarded individual best performers to Korea A's Cheon and his teammate Jeong, while Saipan's A Shi finished third place.

JETS

From Page 28

the St. Michael's Medical Response-Hunters (2-10), 9-0, in the Big Division night feature.

In other results, the Junior Division's IT&E-Fielders (5-7) finished off its season with a 13-7 victory over the DYS-Rep. Ramon S. Basa-Frederick P. DL Guerrero-Kagman Lions (0-12) in Saturday's early pairing, after which heavy rainfall caused an abrupt end to the day.

Senior Division's Natibu-Talaabwogh Falcons (8-3) led the top-ranked Docomo Pacific-Ol'Aces (11-0), 1-0, after one inning before rain spoiled the field.

In addition, the Senior Division's Marianas Cable Vision-Rep. Ramon S. Basa-Frederick P. DL Guerrero-Kagman Lions (4-8) outran the Rep. Antonio Sablan-Eliceo D. Cabrera-Hunters (6-6), 7-2, last Thursday.

JUNIOR DIVISION
Jets 8, Falcons 6

The Jets clung to a 3-2 lead after a lively third inning with three runs off four hits. Devyn Flores and K.J. Deleon Guerrero bagged RBI singles.

The Falcons bit back and tied it briefly in the fourth off errors, but the Jets roared in front with four runs off a two-RBI double by Deleon Guerrero and a base rip by Jason Villagomez. Franco Nakamura drew a walk and later stole home in the mix.

They added a run in the top of the seventh and contained the Falcons to three runs in the final stand.

Winning pitcher Villagomez gave up one earned run off four hits and two walks with eight strikeouts through six frames. He also batted 3-for-4 with an RBI and a stolen base.

Jets' Deleon Guerrero went 2-for-4 with three RBIs, a run, and two stolen bases.

Red Sox 9, Enforcers 8

The Red Sox worked out an early 3-2 edge after two innings with two runs in the top of the second frame. Nathan Camacho led off with a walk and later stole the dish, while Jhace Palacios pulled around on an RBI single.

They then broke ahead, 9-2, in the fourth inning off five hits. Palacios cranked a two-RBI triple, Craig Aguon and Roke Tenorio smashed RBI singles, and Camacho belted a two-RBI double.

The Enforcers left runners on the corners to close the frame, but managed to bring in four runs in the fifth off four hits and two walks before being stood up in the final stand by Red Sox closer Palacios.

The Enforcers mustered two runs off errors as Red Sox starter Camacho exceeded his pitch limit, but his reliever Palacios swooped in and secured the close in 1-2-3 fashion. He also bagged three RBIs at the plate.

Fielders 13, Lions 7

The Fielders added four runs to its early 3-2 lead in the third inning off four hits. Jerry Kintol bashed a two-RBI triple before being driven in by Austin Roberto. The latter scored off a wild throw.

The count shifted to 9-3 in the fourth as the Fielders added two runs from another triple by Kintol. However, this time he was gunned down at the plate to end the inning.

The Lions managed to respond with two runs in the top of the fifth, but were limited to just one run in both the sixth and seventh frames by the Fielders bullpen duo of Anthony Agulto and Matt Hamilton.

The pair kept starter Jonathan Camacho's win intact as six runs came home on his watch off six hits, five walks, and two hit batsmen to go with six strikeouts through five and a third innings.

Fielders' Kintol batted 3-for-4 with five RBIs and a run.

SENIOR DIVISION
Ol'Aces 13, D-9ers 7

The Ol'Aces skipped ahead, 3-0, in the opening frame off four hits. A.J. Lizama bagged an RBI single and T.J. Sablan cracked a two-RBI triple.

They quickly added four more in the second inning with the help of some errors and three hits. Lizama bagged another RBI single before being doubled home by Jun Rabauliman, while three other runs came in off errors.

The D-9ers managed to bring around a run in the top of the third, but a three-run, inside-the-park homer by Ol'Aces' Lizama in the bottom frame overshadowed the feat.

The D-9ers were not discouraged and hustled out three runs in the fifth inning off errors and a triple by Robert Tudela.

The Ol'Aces got two runs back in the bottom side off a pair of RBI base rips by Rabauliman and Sablan and held the D-9ers to three runs in the sixth inning.

Ol'Aces' Lancaster Secharmidal came to the mound for starter Jonah Flores early in the seventh inning after the former's first man made it on and around. He did a good job securing the save despite two runs coming to the plate.

Winning pitcher Flores gave up one earned run off five hits and four walks with six strikeouts through five frames.

Ol'Aces' Lizama batted 3-for-4 with five RBIs and two other runs.

Lions 7, Hunters 2

The Lions established a 3-2 lead with two runs in the third inning off an error and an RBI triple by Dave Matagolai.

The Hunters' only runs came in the top portion off an error and a passed ball, but Lions pitcher Bret Halstead buckled down from thereon and held the Hunters scoreless for the remaining four frames.

He added an insurance run in the fourth by himself off errors and the top of the Lions' order tacked on three more for good measure in the fifth inning. Cedric Ada doubled home Justin Santos and Matagolai brought him to the dish with a two-base smash before coming around off another error.

Winning pitcher Halstead went all seven and gave up one earned run off three hits, a walk, and three hit batsmen with 10 strikeouts.

Lions' Matagolai batted 2-for-3 with two RBIs and a run.

BIG DIVISION
Hustlers 9, Hunters 0

The game remained at a standstill through the first three inning until Hustlers' MacGarry Scaliem broke the ice off errors in the top of the fourth.

The Hustlers then awoke for four runs in the fifth inning off four hits.

Manny Flores knocked in Kevin Villagomez and a couple more Hustlers reached to load up the bases. A costly walk gifted a freebie run after which Tim Rabago pounded a two-RBI base smash.

The Lions struggled at the plate against Hustlers ace pitcher Brian Camacho and did not manage to put a runner in scoring position until they were down to their very last out; an ensuing infield fly out one batter later would end the game.

The Hustlers went on to pad its lead with two more runs in the sixth and another in the seventh as they coasted to the win. They finished with nine hits as a unit.

Winning pitcher Camacho and his defense were in rhythm on Sunday as the young hurler gave up just two hits and a walk with four strikeouts through seven innings.

MINOR

From Page 28

and Melody Johnson.

Miller, for his part, will compete in the boys 18-and-under and will have Rafael Jones, Amami Sakano, and Jake Lee as company in Guam.

Minor and Miller won the girls and boys 18-and-under division, respectively, of the 2012 CNMI Junior Tennis Championships a couple of weeks ago. It was the fourth straight championship for Minor and the was the first for Miller.

The CNMI's 15-and-under squad, meanwhile, will be top-billed by Christopher Cajigan and will also include Seiya Eda, Moris Villanueva, Dylan Ackerman, and Tommy Choi.

Making up the girls 15-and-under team are Mikayla Lopez, Negahr Rastguiy, Emily Jones, and Tammy Ackerman.

Cajigan and Lopez also won their age group in the recent CNMI Junior Tennis Championships.

Luther Lizama, Vincent Tudela, Robert Schorr, Michael Ren, and Michael Jones will make up the boys 12-and-under team, while Carol Lee, Isabel Heras, Julia Ishikawa Elizaveta Atalig, and Ami Tsukagoshi will compete in the girls 12-and-under.

The 27 players were chosen based on ranking points that the Northern Mariana Islands Tennis Association kept tabs throughout the course of the year's junior competitions.

NMITA president Jeff Race said the Top 2 players in the 18-and-under, Top 3 in the 15-and-under, and Top 4 in 12-and-under (maximum two players per country) will be invited to join the North Pacific Team for the Pacific Oceania Junior Championships to be held in Fiji in August.

Race added that Daniel Park, Carl Dela Cruz, Clayton Izuka, Alex Park, Steven Goodwin, Adele Hudkins, and Jodel Fernandez placed high enough in the rankings to qualify to compete and were invited to the NPQ in Guam, but are unable to attend because of previous commitments.

NMC

From Page 28

In addition to first, second. and third place prizes for the Championship, A, B, C, Seniors, and Ladies flight podium finishers, the competition will also feature some significant hole-in-one prizes for any lucky golfer who manages to sink a hole-in-one shot at the designated sites.

The entrance fee is set at $95 per player. Interested players are also invited to bring their family, friends, and playing partners for a fantastic day of fun and fundraising for a good cause.

Registration forms can be downloaded from www.nmcnet.edu, or hard copies can be obtained in person at the at Marianas Country Club, Saipan Country Club, Dan Dan Golf Range, Kingfisher Golf Links, Coral Ocean Point, and All Star Sporting Goods.

Registration payments can be completed at Laolao Bay Golf & Resort, Triple J Motors or at NMC's Cashier office.

The NMC Foundation is also asking more companies or individuals who can contribute Education Tax Credit, monetary, or in-kind donations to help sponsor the tournament.

A special sponsors' reception will be held before the tournament. Those interested in sponsoring the event or who are interested in registering to play can contact the Northern Marianas College at 234-5498, ext. 1502.

The NMC Foundation is composed of volunteers in the community who are committed to improving and enhancing higher education opportunities for people in the CNMI.

For more information on how to donate to the NMC Foundation or to register to play, log on to www.nmcnet.edu or call 234-5498, ext. 1050.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore	22	13	.629	—
Tampa Bay	21	14	.600	1
New York	19	15	.559	2 1/2
Toronto	19	16	.543	3
Boston	15	19	.441	6 1/2
Central Division				
Cleveland	18	16	.529	—
Detroit	17	17	.500	1
Chicago	16	19	.457	2 1/2
Kansas City	13	20	.394	4 1/2
Minnesota	10	24	.294	8
West Division				
Texas	23	12	.657	—
Oakland	18	17	.514	5
Seattle	16	20	.444	7 1/2
Los Angeles	15	20	.429	8

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	22	13	.629	—
Washington	21	13	.618	1/2
New York	19	15	.559	2 1/2
Miami	18	16	.529	3 1/2
Philadelphia	16	19	.457	6
Central Division				
St. Louis	20	14	.588	—
Cincinnati	17	16	.515	2 1/2
Pittsburgh	16	18	.471	4
Houston	15	19	.441	5
Milwaukee	15	19	.441	5
Chicago	14	20	.412	6
West Division				
Los Angeles	23	11	.676	—
San Francisco	17	17	.500	6
Arizona	15	20	.429	8 1/2
Colorado	13	20	.394	9 1/2
San Diego	12	23	.343	11 1/2

THE PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP SCORES

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Florida (AP)–Scores Sunday from The Players Championship played at the 7,215-yard, par-72 TPC Sawgrass, Players Stadium Course.

FINAL ROUND

Matt Kuchar (600), $1,710,000	68-68-69-70–275
Ben Curtis (203), $627,000	68-71-70-68–277
Rickie Fowler (203), $627,000	72-69-66-70–277
Zach Johnson (203), $627,000	70-66-73-68–277
Martin Laird (203), $627,000	65-73-72-67–277
Luke Donald (110), $342,000	72-69-72-66–279
Bo Van Pelt (94), $296,083	71-70-70-69–280
Kevin Na (94), $296,083	67-69-68-76–280
Jhonattan Vegas (94), $296,083	68-74-68-70–280
Carl Pettersson (80), $247,000	71-72-69-69–281
David Toms (80), $247,000	69-74-73-65–281
Blake Adams (68), $199,500	66-73-72-71–282
Jonathan Byrd (68), $199,500	68-70-72-72–282
Geoff Ogilvy (68), $199,500	70-73-70-69–282
Brendon de Jonge (54), $137,988	69-71-72-71–283
Bob Estes (54), $137,988	73-69-76-65–283
Peter Hanson, $137,988	73-71-71-68–283
Martin Kaymer, $137,988	73-69-70-71–283
Spencer Levin (54), $137,988	74-68-72-69–283
David Mathis (54), $137,988	72-71-69-71–283
Adam Scott (54), $137,988	68-70-74-71–283
Henrik Stenson (54), $137,988	71-71-71-70–283
Chris Couch (48), $95,000	72-71-71-70–284
John Huh (48), $95,000	75-66-72-71–284
Tim Clark (42), $66,548	71-70-71-73–285
Brian Davis (42), $66,548	68-70-72-75–285
Jim Furyk (42), $66,548	72-70-72-71–285
Bill Haas (42), $66,548	68-71-74-72–285
Phil Mickelson (42), $66,548	71-71-70-73–285
Pat Perez (42), $66,548	69-75-70-71–285
Ian Poulter (42), $66,548	65-76-71-73–285
John Rollins (42), $66,548	72-72-69-72–285
Kevin Stadler (42), $66,548	68-71-73-73–285
Charlie Wi (42), $66,548	71-67-73-74–285
Keegan Bradley (34), $46,835	72-70-74-70–286
Tom Gillis (34), $46,835	70-71-73-72–286
Jeff Maggert (34), $46,835	70-71-71-74–286
Johnson Wagner (34), $46,835	69-73-69-75–286
Jimmy Walker (34), $46,835	71-70-71-74–286
Kris Blanks (29), $37,050	69-74-72-72–287
J.J. Henry (29), $37,050	71-73-74-69–287
Bryce Molder (29), $37,050	72-72-70-73–287
Alvaro Quiros, $37,050	72-72-72-71–287
Tiger Woods (29), $37,050	74-68-72-73–287
Marc Leishman (26), $31,350	73-70-73-72–288
Ricky Barnes (23), $26,334	74-69-72-74–289
Harrison Frazar (23), $26,334	68-76-69-76–289
Brian Gay (23), $26,334	71-72-71-75–289
Ryan Moore (23), $26,334	69-72-75-73–289
Josh Teater (23), $26,334	71-71-76-71–289
Brian Harman (18), $22,496	73-68-76-73–290
Chris Kirk (18), $22,496	71-73-72-74–290
Justin Rose (18), $22,496	76-68-75-71–290
Kevin Streelman (18), $22,496	72-68-72-78–290
Michael Thompson (18), $22,496	68-71-75-76–290
Sergio Garcia (13), $21,280	73-71-68-79–291
Trevor Immelman (13), $21,280	72-72-72-75–291
Robert Karlsson (13), $21,280	70-74-76-71–291
Rod Pampling (13), $21,280	71-72-78-70–291
Nick Watney (13), $21,280	71-70-76-74–291
Robert Allenby (9), $20,520	72-72-75-73–292
Sung Kang (9), $20,520	75-68-72-77–292
Lee Westwood (9), $20,520	71-70-74-77–292
Stewart Cink (6), $19,855	71-72-78-72–293
Harris English (6), $19,855	70-67-79-77–293
George McNeill (6), $19,855	70-73-82-68–293
Heath Slocum (6), $19,855	73-70-78-72–293
Jason Dufner (3), $19,285	73-71-76-75–295
David Hearn (3), $19,285	69-75-77-74–295
Graham DeLaet (1), $18,905	71-73-76-76–296
Justin Leonard (1), $18,905	75-68-74-79–296
Cameron Tringale (1), $18,620	73-71-77-76–297

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

2012 Major League Championship

PHOTOS By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

Comets' Erik Cruz, left, thinks about making a break for third base.

Falcons' Kobe Lifoifoi throws the ball from right field.

Comets' Ethan Babauta looks for the signal from third base after belting a stand-up double.

Falcons' Kekuni Kaainoa fires home a pitch during their Major League championship game against eventual champions Comets last May 6 at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

Little League umpire Louie Muna confirms the last out of the game.

The Comets jump for joy after winning the 2012 Major League championship.

Falcons shortstop Benen Iguel charges a ground ball and looks for a play at first base.

The Falcons hold their heads up for a team photo after settling for runner-up honors.

MVP James gets 32, Heat top Pacers in Game 1

PAGE 24

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Matt Kuchar comes up clutch at Sawgrass

PAGE 25

Koreans top Goodwill ping-pong tourney

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

A visiting team from South Korea took home the team championship of the 17th Goodwill Table Tennis Tournament held last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The three-person Korean A team made up of Cheon Yeong Cheol, Jeong Mi Jeong, and Choi In Kyu finished with an immaculate 5-0 win-loss record in the round-robin competition.

MARK RABAGO

The Korea A and Korea B teams pose for a group photo with Marianas Amateur Table Tennis Association president Steve Lim, right, during the awards banquet of the 17th Goodwill Table Tennis Tournament Saturday night at Saipan World Resort. Inset, tourney top player Cheon Yeong Cheol in action against Tinian's Charlie Cheng.

Jeong is the owner of a table tennis academy in South Korea, while Choi is the vice president of the table tennis club in Korea.

The Korea A team started off with a 3-1 victory over a Guam made up of Hisamitsu Hamamoto, Tony Huang, and David Yang. The latter is the son of Saipan A's Jean Shi but loaned to the squad from the U.S. territory, while Hamamoto is the president of the Guam Large Ball Table Tennis Association.

Guam's only win against Korea came courtesy of Huang who beat Choi.

Saipan A, which aside from Shi is composed of Budhi Gurung and Marianas Amateur Table Tennis Association president Steve Lim, was the next to fall against Korea A, 1-3.

Lim gave Saipan A its only win when he triumphed over Choi.

Korea A made it 3-0 after sweeping a Saipan B squad that

See **KOREANS** on **Page 26**

Jets nab last playoff spot in Juniors

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

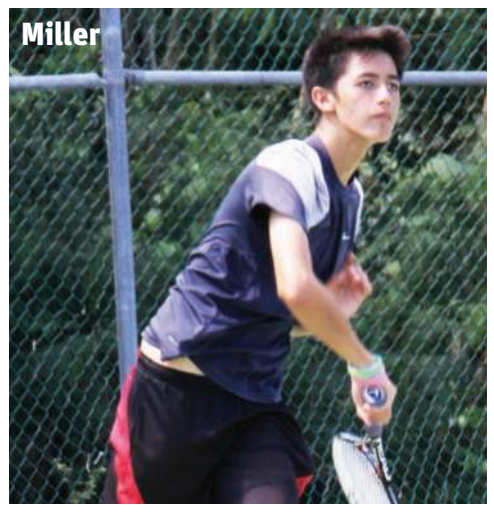
The Saipan Shipping Company Jets advanced to the playoffs of the Junior Division after leveling its win-loss record to 6-6 following an 8-6 victory over Natibu Sports Association-Talaabwogh Falcons (7-5) last Sunday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

The Jets received some help from second place Bank of Saipan Red Sox (9-3) who triumphed over the DPS-Dare Program-Leep-Enforcers (5-7), 9-8, on Sunday, while Paradise Island Animal Hospital-Hustlers' (8-4) pitcher Brian Camacho dealt a two-hit shutout to

See **JETS** on **Page 26**

WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

The Jets' Franco Nakamura prepares to bat against the Natibu Sports Association-Talaabwogh Falcons in their Junior Division game last Sunday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield



Minor, Miller to lead CNMI in NPQ

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Top junior netters Thea Minor and Christian Miller will lead the CNMI's 27-player contingent to the 2012 International Tennis Federation North Pacific Qualifying Event set from June 11 to 15 at the Rick Ninete Tennis Center in Hagatna, Guam.

Minor will see action in the girls 18-and-under division and will be joined in the age group by older sister Theecel, Alina Ishikawa,

See **MINOR** on **Page 26**

NMC Foundation Open reset to June 30

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Northern Marianas College Foundation has moved back the date for its 10th Annual NMC Foundation Open golf tournament to June 30.

The tournament will still be held at the Laolao Bay Golf Resort's west course and will commence with a 7am shotgun start.

The tournament has been the organization's signature event for the past decade. The purpose of the event is to raise funds to support and enhance a number the college's programs and services. The tournament will utilize a medal-play format.

See **NMC** on **Page 26**